

The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 205.....3rd April 1988.

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The days hurtle by and Easter is upon us once again. This year's Good Friday fell on April Fool's Day and we eagerly listened out on the radio for elaborate April Fools jokes. Unfortunately, the days of these seem to be long gone, and one remembers with much amusement certain incidents occurring on this day in the past. The return of Radio Veronica, courtesy of Radio Mi Amigo in 1975, the threatened voluntary close-down of a certain offshore station some time later (this one back-fired when the transmitter packed up!) and AM stereo from Radio Nova in 1985 will always remain in our minds. As regards the latter, the whole thing was well set up and pre-planned. Promos had been played heavily for the 14 days up to the 1st. We wrote our thoughts about it, saying it was likely to be a hoax, then at the last moment, we lost our presence of mind and switched on the second set! (We had been told to have two ordinary sets, six feet apart, one set on 737 and one on 739kHz!). They were very convincing! This week's nostalgia tape (SP4) features this elaborate hoax and is offered in the Irish station section.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday evening, from Blackpool. Lucky subscribers get it shortly afterwards! This week's will, of course, be one day late arriving due to Easter Monday. Costing 20p per copy, the report is available to postal subscribers at the following rates..... posted first class (U.K.) and to E.E.C. countries, including Eire, 40p..... posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... posted full rate to non-E.E.C. countries, including Sweden, Norway, Finland and Switzerland, 45p..... posted elsewhere, via air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish, at the above appropriate rate.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and get your message across to our 750/800 readers. A full page is only £20.00, half a page, £11.00 and a quarter, £6.00. Subject to availability and suitability, of course. 1000 non-subscribing contacts (these people buy the merchandise but don't read this news-sheet) are about to receive a mail-out from us. If you would like to get your message across to them as well, contact us now, as we are most eager to ascertain exactly how many organisations do wish to participate in this advertising exercise.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO-LINE will keep you abreast of the news, as it happens. Ring (0795) 511118 and hear a three minute regularly up-dated message. If you have news for us, then ring (0795) 511119 and leave your news after the whistle tone. Alternatively, ring (0253) 882017 and leave your news here and at this latter number, merchandise and subscription queries can be dealt with.

"COMMUNICATE '88" will take place in the luxurious Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Blackpool, on Saturday 24th September 1988, from 11:00 till 23:00. Details will be available shortly, but for now we must ask you to consider booking any accomodation, as Blackpool is likely to be bursting at the seams as it is the famous 'Illuminations' period. We can supply some details of accomodation and contacts. Send an SAE for same.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Offshore Echo's Magazine No. 70 is now in stock. This issue contains news and logs from the past two months on Laser, Monique, Caroline and the Voice of Peace. There are interviews with Ron West and Walter Simmons, Mike 'Coconut' Davis and the late Tony Windsor. Other features include Radio Nostalgia and the 'Where are they Now' section, again this time, looking at Radio London presenters. International news, lots of excellent photos and the letters section finish off this 64 page, A5 glossy covered magazine. Send £1.90 today for Europe's leading free radio magazine..... After severe problems with our original supplier, we now have the 1988 World Radio TV Handbook in stock. This is the DX - ers 'Bible' and lists country by country, the majority of the world's radio and televisions stations, with frequencies, times of operation, and QSL policy. At the rear of the book, is a listing of stations on each continent, in ascending frequency order. Several receivers and active aerials are also put through tests in a special section. The new edition has 576 pages, and costs £17.95, including postage and packing. Many thanks to Alan and Steve of Medium Wave Circle for putting us in touch with their supplier at this time. No further problems with future supplies are expected and we apologise for keeping numerous eager DX - ers waiting on this occasion..... Further supplies of "Caroline" by the Fortunes are now in stock. This is the newer version of the two, the original one now being quite rare. The price is the same as the in-stock 'Man of Action' record, £5.00. Both batches of records are brand new, of course, and on a European label.

NEW ARRIVALS. From BDXC comes 'Radio Stations in the United Kingdom'. This is a neat A5 booklet with 24 pages listing all licensed operators in the U.K., on the correct (at time of going to press) channels (both MF and FM). It also includes addresses, telephone numbers, transmitter powers, locations, future plans, information about the broadcasters and reception report procedure. Station logos and other news break up any monotony which could occur with such a publication. This rates as an "A-UK Best Buy". £1.00 or 4 x IRC's, from BDXC - A-UK, 54 Birkhall Road, Catford, London SE6 1TE..... 'Sounds Good' - in conjunction

with RBL radio. This 44 page x A5 booklet is really an advertising medium, but does give all the latest news on RBL. For anyone in the Kent area, it is well worth getting, even more so, as it is free, from Dept A-UK, 84 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent CT14 9JB..... **Now Radio, Issue 50.** Half a century already! Well done here. 24 x A5 pages of 'across the board' radio news, including details of a trip to the Ross Revenge on 14th May and the Now Radio - Radio Convention on 2nd July. Details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Short Wave Newsletter, Issue 37.** Just 4 x A4 sides this time, covering general SW news. 50p for a sample copy to SWN, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... **Radiotelex, Issue 121.** 4 x A5 pages packed with logs and news from that medium for the past two weeks, all in English. Details from RT, Postfach 103771, D - 2800 Bremen 1, West Germany..... **Play - DX, Issue 500!** Must be congrats. on this one, the most aged publication in Italy. Keep it right here!! The usual 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and news etc. Mostly in English, details from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Pin Magazine, Issue 30.** This is the issue for Jan/Feb. 1988 and is a bumper 60 page job. Few photos and all text in German, but good coverage of European radio, including offshore, within. Price DM 5.00 from Pin, Postfach 220342, D - 5600 Wuppertal 22, West Germany. Their latest SW frequency and address list can be found within, but for those not taking the magazine, we can supply just the 4 x A5 page list for 50p.

TAPE OFFER. First of all in this section, apologies to those who received tapes of Hits FM instead of Raiders FM, and vice versa. We got our numbers crossed! Continuing with our series of recordings of London stations, we start off this week, with one of the more unusual sounds to be heard on British airwaves, a fully operational Greek language radio station. The particular one featured as Tape 180, is Greek Community Radio, and they broadcast on 104.4MHz. Although no English is spoken, you can certainly tell that a lot of effort and production work goes into this station, as many adverts are heard, as well as lengthy news bulletins. Of course, there is also plenty of traditional Greek music. Certainly an interesting one. Still in London for Tape 181, we tune down

the band just a little to 104.3MHz., and stop on **JBC Radio**, who operate in stereo. This station has been on the air for many years, and has always kept itself broadcasting to the local community, growing out of the original London reggae station, the **Dread Broadcasting Company**. This particular recording features a breakfast show from 22nd March, and in between all the news and traffic reports, the music featured is soft soul, rather than reggae. Across to Ireland now, and for tape 182, we visit the town of Clonmel, in Co. Tipperary, the home of **Premier County Radio**. Broadcasting on both AM and FM over a wide area, this station has certainly established itself in just a few months on the air, as can be heard by the large number of adverts. This recording was made over lunchtime on 18th March. Finally this week, Tape 183 takes us out to **Radio Caroline** once again. For the past few weeks, engineer Mike Watts has hosted the early hour shift at weekends. This recording gives those with night - time reception problems, a chance to hear one of these overnight slots. Although recorded on the Suffolk coast, the foreign stations can still be heard in the background during quiet passages. The particular night chosen, is the early hours of 27th March, when the clocks were changed. All recordings are 90 minutes in length, recorded on brand name cassettes, usually TDK D's, and cost just £2.00 each, including postage and packing.

JOHN and ANITA BURCH of the **Caroline Movement** would like to thank everyone who sent them messages of condolence, after Anita sadly suffered a miscarriage. Work on the current Bulletin and Jaybee Newsletters has been delayed for a short time, as a result, although John informs us that the former has been almost completely prepared, and is nearly ready for printing. We wish Anita a quick recovery from her distressing ordeal, and hope that both herself and John will be able to get back to normality as soon as possible.

WANTED: Recordings of Liz West, David Lee Stone and Holly Michaels, from Laser 558. Also photographs of the Laser deejays. Send details to : Mr. V. Hayes, 20 Monks Close, Pershore, Worcestershire WR10 1BZ.

FOR SALE: In the absence of IRC's, possibly partly caused by our constant mentions warning people that they were being 'ripped off' by the Post Office, we have for sale plenty of Irish 28p stamps. These are ideal when sending in a reception report, in fact, are even better than IRC's, as the recipient has no need to visit the P.O. in order to exchange them for stamps. A 28p stamp is needed to send a letter from Ireland, by the way. The cost is 28p each (U.K. money) and the difference in exchange rates will pay the postage to you. We have just a few 75ct Dutch stamps too. These are also 28p each. If anyone does need any French or German stamps, they only need to let us know and we can always arrange to get a few.

OFFERS over £5.00 (in writing) are invited for a brand new, mint condition original copy of "**Caroline**" by the **Fortunes** on the U.K. Decca label.... P.O. Box 539, etc.

GENERAL: To save us time looking, which recent magazine lists times and frequencies of DX programmes? A call on (0253) 882017 would be appreciated.

We ran out of space last week, but wanted to mention SW aerials in response to several letters of enquiry. We have covered FM previously and everyone knows that they need a 'loop' for successful medium wave listening/ dx ing, but as far as short wave is concerned, well, a long wire is as good as anything really and it does not have to be as long as your medium wave one. 10/20 metres is usually adequate to make a noticeable difference and this will be even greater using an ATU (aerial tuning unit). Having said that, some receivers do tend to overload with too long a long wire. Our Sony 7600 D does, but works excellently with the little 'washing line' antenna provided with the set. On the other hand, our ex - BBC Racial works with any old piece of wire at all, be it a 100 metre length, or even an old metal coat-hanger! It does have its own built-in ATU, however. Directional loops are possible for short wave, but with the signals coming out of the sky (reflected off the ionospheric layers) rather than direct from the transmitter on a ground wave course, they are obviously not as effective as your medium wave one. Numerous 'whips' and 'joysticks' and other things are available on the market, but do tend to be rather expensive for what they are. We have a Datong Active Antenna which operates from 200kHz. right up to 100MHz. It worked well but has fallen into disrepair, due to neglect. We intend to rectify matters now though. One of the good things about this antenna was the fact that

it did not need tuning every time you changed frequency, whether it be from SW to MW or whatever. On the other side though, it did tend to pick up a lot of household generated signals (TV's, washers and central heating thermostats). The fact that it took a mains supply did not improve matters, but that, of course, can be overcome. WRTH 88 has several pages on the subject and is worth checking out. If anyone does use anything special, or different, or knows of any publications featuring SW aerials, perhaps they could let us know and we can continue the discussion in a future issue, as it is of interest to so many people. Finally, with the best of equipment, if conditions are down, you might as well forget it. A colleague, mentioning no names here, bought a rather expensive receiver and last weekend, went off for the day, clutching his new possession. A call from him later, found him in a very depressed state, as the results he got were abysmal. Of course, as all will recall, conditions on SW last Sunday were grim.

Several people have mentioned to us that on Sunday 20th March, on the BBC 1 'Fax' programme, there was an article and some very nice film of the final hours of the **Mi Amigo**. Was it an extensive article? Is it worth getting a video copy of?

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND.

First off this week, we feel we must make mention of these satellite delivered operations being talked and written about rather a lot, at present. One such operation is **Radio Nova International**, due to start on 1st May. People are asking if it will be possible to receive it..... Simply, it is the same as receiving satellite TV. The relevant receiving equipment would be needed, along with a great deal of money. This includes a satellite dish and appropriate receiver for the frequencies in question, above 1GHz. (1000MHz.). These radio services seem to be mainly aimed at the continental market, where cities and towns have major cable networks (as usual, the U.K. are so far behind due to restrictions and cost, that very few cable operators are in existence). Basically, in these cities, the cable operator has a main receiving station, where many television and radio stations are received. These are then re-transmitted down their own cables and into the homes of those subscribing to the system. Any scrambled signals are un-scrambled in the home of the relevant fully paid-up subscriber. Of course, it is possible for anyone to receive direct from the satellite if they have the right receiving equipment, although many of the television stations are scrambled to avoid 'pirating'. The programmes are produced initially, in studios in various countries, then transmitted up to the satellite, the station having hired a specific channel on that satellite, which then receives it and re-transmits it on a different frequency. The satellites were originally thought of for broadcasting television signals, but small sections of the band, too narrow for TV, were left over. These were wide enough, however, to carry stereo radio channels and many European entrepreneurs have seized the opportunity to broadcast their stations to a wide European market, and in the case of **Nova**, where the station would not have been granted a licence to broadcast terrestrially, can operate this way. So, if you want to hear them, get your satellite dish and receiver ready, or move to a city in Europe, on the cable network. Big international advertisers are expected to be heard on these services, although a small amount of time will be left for each recipient to 'opt-out' with his local adverts.

Secondly, before we start with news, for our **Nostalgia Tape Offer** this week, we offer SP4... a C.90 recording, off 738kHz.AM, of **Radio Nova** on 1st April 1985, with Dave Christian. The recording is notable because of the imminent 'commencement of AM stereo at 15:00'. Of course, it was 1st April and it all turned out to be a very elaborate April Fool's Day joke, but it was so well done, and convincing. The cost of this tape is £2.00.

In Dublin, we were monitoring **Q 102** on April 1st, and caught what was presumed to be their April Fool in progress. They were announcing that Dublin's Millennium had been discovered to be 180 years too early, and people were phoning in with their comments on the situation, and whether the celebrations should continue or be cancelled!! Whilst on the subject of **Q 102**, the power of their recently acquired MW transmitter on 738kHz. has been turned down so low, that it is only audible during daylight hours, and completely disappears at dusk. Even during the daytime, the co-channel operator in Co. Mayo can be heard underneath, during quiet

spells. Having said that, the opposite has occurred in the case of the 819kHz. transmitter and power here is back to what it was some time ago. During daylight hours, Cavan Community Radio, a co-channel operator, can only be heard very faintly in the background, and their listening area must have been drastically reduced with this massive increase in power. At night, Q is audible with a fairly good signal on this channel. Sunshine 101 FM have without question, the best channel and the most powerful signal, on 846kHz. and despite being sandwiched between two BBC 'locals', the signal is rock solid, night and day, here in Blackpool. Boyne Radio on 1305kHz. is very powerful here during the day, but lets in ERI from time to time at night, depending on conditions. CAU - FM, formerly on 103.5MHz., can now be found on 104.3MHz. The signal is strong and in stereo in the Dun Laoghaire area. Reasons for the move are not known. We asked last week if North Dublin Community Radio were still active on 1008kHz. The answer appears to be yes, but only really audible in its immediate listening area. Once away from here, Kiss FM storms in on the channel. Tina Gates, one of the redundant Energy news readers, has surfaced on news at Liberty 104 in the city. She is the second news reader to re-locate, Bob Gallico to TTTR, being the first. None of the D.J. team have been heard elsewhere, we regret to say. Liberty 104 can be heard on three FM frequencies in the city, 103.5, 104.0 and 104.5, and also on 1035kHz.AM. Tony Allan does one afternoon programme per week on the station, and also heard is ex-Boyneside Radio presenter, Dave 'C'. Radio Dublin have been heard advertising for deejays and telephonists. They don't need any news readers, as they 'take' RTE news, hourly. Ballymun Community Broadcasting (B.C.B.) can be heard from 10:00 until 22:00 each Saturday and Sunday and from 15:00 until midnight on Mondays. The frequency is 90.2MHz. and the signal is put out in mono, with about 20 watts. An increase to 50 watts, in stereo, is planned, along with a move in studio location.

Word reaches us from Millennium 88 FM... They have been granted a power increase for the 88FM outlet, which until now, has been running on a mere 100 watts, which meant that in most parts of Dublin, reception was noisy in stereo. A one kilowatt transmitter is planned. No extension in operating hours is planned although, it appears that many listeners think the station should operate longer than the 08:00 until 14:00 slot daily. The station is licensed until 30th October, but hopes are high for an extension here, too. Reaction from listeners and advertisers has been extremely positive. The majority are relieved that it is not a 'wall to wall hot hits' station. Locally, the station has been described as Radio 1½, halfway between the pop Radio 2 and the more serious Radio 1, thus filling an important gap. Lots of Irish discs are played, Millennium events plugged and Dublin news given preference. Advertising is reported as very good. The station can be heard over a wide area, on 1278kHz.

Co. MEATH. Boyne Radio have opened a new opt-out service from Navan. Identifying as Boyne Radio Navan, the signal is quite strong on 1332kHz. Separate programmes were first noted today, but may well have started earlier, as when we tuned in previously, relays of the Drogheda service were always noted. The station, like Boyne North on 1233kHz., comes together for network programmes and news, from time to time throughout the day.

Co. LOUTH. The reported carrier on 1260kHz. came alive in the week, with programmes from Radio Carousel, although originating from their Navan studios. On several occasions, all three frequencies carried these programmes (1125, 1260 and 1386kHz.). However, over the weekend, 1260 was noted missing again. Only 1386kHz. is anything like consistent.

Co. MONAGHAN. Kiss FM on 1008kHz. suffered from teething troubles early week. Following their commencement officially last Sunday at 11:00, programmes continued until about 13.30 on Monday, during the Tom Hardy show, when it was announced that they would have to go off for transmitter repairs. The problem, it appears, is caused by the local electricity supplier (ESB). Rather than continue with ESB interference, it was decided to switch off altogether until the faults had been rectified. We next noted the station on Friday morning, but it is possible they returned on the Thursday evening, although we failed to note them due to problems we have with reception, or rather rejection of an adjacent ILR! Scott Shannon's 'Rockin' America' programme (a syndicated show from the States, and nothing

to do with a person of the same name on a station in Cork) was noted on Saturday, as had been advertised. It is not thought that the high power FM transmitter is operational at all, as yet, on 103.7MHz., although we can not tell at present due to very poor FM conditions.

Co. LIMERICK. Reports tell us that "Hits 954" may continue after all, with new backers stepping in the gap left by the original owner.

Co. CORK. According to an advert seen by our reporter, Frank, Radio ERI claims to have 234,600 listeners. Their Blues Promotion works as follows.... if you hear a song with blue in the title, you ring the station when it is finished and you could win... A 'Blues' bag (for 1 song), £5 (for 2) £55 (for 3), £550 (for 4) and £5,500 (for 5)! Further outside broadcasts have been heard, the latest, on 24th March, from The Shandon Travel Holiday Fair, at the Imperial Hotel, during George Talbot's afternoon programme. Mark Edwards was at the OB location. The quality of the broadcast was excellent, compared with the last one they did, and plenty of Summer records were played, to get people in a holiday mood. Holidaying staff have returned and the current line-up reads..... 07:00 Steve O'Neil, 12:00 George Talbot, 17:00 Mark Edwards, 22:00 Mark Lawrence, 03:00 close. The station has been heard to close as early as midnight on the odd night, despite playing a jingle stating... 'ERI, 24 hour service in Munster! Our reporter thought that a one-off programme heard recently may have been presented by Tony Allan, as it was the same voice as heard on most of ERI's adverts. However, he was not sure on this.

LAND - BASED STATIONS.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

24th - 29th March 1988.

This weekend touched down on 32 stations, only 5 in stereo.

Missing / Not Heard :- London Rock, Strong Island, Roots FM, Girls FM, TKO, Galaxy, Stomp FM, Raiders FM.

The recent raids have certainly caused at least one privateer to call it a day. It was sadly confirmed this week, that 'Golden Groovers', New Music Radio are no more, having decided to wait and see what will happen with the onset of 'Community Radio'. Not only were they experiencing immense difficulty in recruiting presenters, but the high profile of the DoTI people, meant that the cost of replacing equipment, would be unsustainably high. So N-MR have packed away their link transmitters for the foreseeable future. N-MR's newsman Roger Ross, London's own version of WKRP's Les Leston, can still be heard, with one or two others from the ill-fated venture, on occasional Sunday morning WFRL, with a featured DX report.

Fulham and Wandsworth micro pop-rocker South-West Radio (105.5 - stereo) were back Friday, with the usual run down of the Fulham Road 'Our Price' record store, album charts. They were suffering from the twin problems of breakthrough from Sangam's spurious signal on 105.45 and what was taken to be a test from East London soulsters MRS (105.55). MRS had two spurious signals of their own on 105.1 and 104.4MHz. The second was heard while checking on the absence of Greek Community Radio (104.45) who were off-air Friday, but back Saturday - presumably having fallen foul of DoTI People's foreign language squad. Also on the very busy 105.5 slot on Friday and Sunday evenings was heard on unidentified Greek station, which was subject to much pumping and fading, so may in fact be from well out of the area.

'Golden Groovers' Hits FM (105.5) had a good day on Saturday, despite the overlapping of stations on the previous day. The hard rocking East Londoners at Rock FM (94.25) came through with a blockbuster sound, clear out into surrounding counties. Nothing was heard from Saturday night rockers London Rock (89.5), or weekenders Raiders Pop FM (105.25), who were presumably still waiting to replace last week's lost transmitter. With the absence of Raiders FM (105.25), what is believed to be Eastbourne's ABC Radio was also picked up on the Kent / London border on Sunday evening.

Little had been heard recently, from weekend time sharers Starpoint and K-Jazz. Difficulties were caused when K-Jazz sometimes failed to arrive for their appointed time, and all that was heard was a dead carrier for the day. They have recently been reported as going through a painful separation. Starpoint, it would seem, have got the transmitter, as with City Radio (94.4) silent on Sunday, they took the opportunity to come through loud, clear and probably London wide, on 94.45MHz. for a full day.

What is thought to be **Sangam Radio** (94.45), Sina Radio International's (SRI 90.85) close Southall neighbour was heard over the weekend. Except Sunday, that is, when it was probably masked by the returned Starpoint. They were putting out a fair signal with a spurious signal on 105.45. After a regular stint on 90.4 last year, they have been occasionally heard on 89.7. Swinging Radio India itself (SRI), continue to be heard loud and clear over West and North London, but are blocked from the rest of London Asian communities by the powerful pincer movement formed by extra loud Brixton 'reggae - rockers' **Passion Radio** (90.7) and **Faze 1** (90.95). Despite having a signal that blasts well out into the Home Counties, Faze 1 are also suffering from Passion Radio, with noticeable side splash emanating from their near neighbour.

Indications are that soulsters, **Peoples Radio Station** (PRS - 90.45) have moved from their original Brixton base, to probably further out towards Blackheath (Kent borders), or possibly even North of the Thames. Occasional weak tests, and even tuning signals have been picked up for a week or two now. But, similar to SRI, PRS are now difficult to catch South of the Thames, as they are squeezed up to virtual inaudibility, between the powerful sidesplash sent out by the Lambeth transmitters of **Rock to Rock** (90.25) and **Passion Radio** (90.7).

The early hours of Friday morning saw **Kiss FM** (93.95 - stereo) putting out back-to-back, hi-energy dance tapes. As they were not heard again until their normal start up on Saturday, these were presumed to be 'setting up' tests. Quality was up to TKO class, with an extremely clean, stable stereo sound. **TKO** (102.4 - stereo) are currently off-air, and are surprisingly slow in returning this time.

Super-Fresh (103.35) were back for the weekend, after their brief sojourn on 103.1, fighting it out (and losing!), with Kent's **Invicta Radio**. By Sunday, they were having trouble with the transmitter, and noticeable distortion began to creep in. Monday found them almost unlistenable, as the distortion had become so great. They must have known, but felt it worth while staying on, until something could be done about it. Also suffering distortion problems, but not quite so greatly, were their ex-colleagues at **Time Radio** (103.75), who have been testing a couple of times in stereo over the weekend. **Rock to Rock** (90.25) have still not eliminated the nasty 50Hz mains hum which has been all pervading this last week or two.

North London newcomers **Strong Island** (92.3) have not been heard this week, although they may well have been masked by South London Super Privateer, **LWR** (92.1).

A lot happening around the 93MHz. slot this weekend. **Solar 93** were testing with a good quality mono signal on Thursday evening and were expected to carry on through the weekend. Unusually, they were heard using their full title, for the first time in ages. **S.O.L.A.R.** is in fact, an acronym for **Sound Of London Alternative Radio**, which was probably inspired by the 'Sound Of Los Angeles Radio' record label. What happened next is not known, but **SOLAR** were not heard again over the weekend. However, three other signals have been heard. One of these is confidently thought to be Watford part time soulsters **Playback FM** (93.05), who were previously heard on 93.15, until blown away by powerful Brixton LWR associates, **Roots FM** (93.2 - currently off air). There is also a faint spurious signal on 93.1 from **LWR** (92.1). Each evening on 93.0, has been heard back-to-back soul music tapes with no ID's, and this is thought to be new out-of-towners **Jive FM**.

A quiet weekend, despite a couple of unexplained absences - **GCR** (104.45) were off on Friday, and Tottenham's **RJR** (89.95 - stereo) went out on Sunday night. **City Radio** went off Friday night, having dropped down from their normal 94.55 slot, to the announced 94.4MHz. Studio problems were thought to be the problem, as both decks sounded as though the elastic had stretched. They returned in the early hours of Sunday morning on 94.35, in glorious stereo. Often announced as being in stereo, they haven't actually been heard in stereo, since shortly after they began broadcasting back in July / August 1987. The slightly lower frequency is presumably in answer to the coming of Sangam to 94.4. City always seem ready to adjust their transmitters at short notice, if they hear someone else coming their way.

Easter has crept up on us, without our realising it, so a full weekend's activity can be expected, and we hope to be able to cover any surprises that may be planned.

LONDON - UPDATE. From Luton, we have a few more

details on two stations, who can often be heard even in London itself. **Jive FM** seems to be on the air at weekends only, on 93MHz., in mono. Last Saturday (26th), they went 24 hours. Although the mailing address is South Harrow, they are definitely operating from around Luton, as the signal is good, and gigs / discos local to the area are being promoted. Soul music is played on this one. **Network FM** appear to be evenings only, on 105.1MHz., again in mono. This station plays mainly reggae, with a little soul, and judging by the accents, is staffed mainly by West Indians.

DTI activity seems to be relenting somewhat, and most stations managed a trouble free week, with breaks on those who were hit, becoming shorter. TKO has still not returned to the air, and transmissions of soul music monitored mid-week around their frequency of 102.4MHz., turned out to be from **People's Radio Station** (PRS). These were actually on about 102.3MHz., although the transmission had disappeared by Saturday 2nd April. A very interesting, and unique new station appeared on the air, early in the week on 89.5MHz., and identified as **London Irish Community Radio**. Playing a mixture of oldies, and traditional Irish folk music, their stereo signal seems to be covering quite a large area of North London and Essex. As from Friday (1st April) **Time Radio** (103.8) finally got their signal back to the level of several months ago. A better aerial system and transmitter are believed to be helping them do this. The station is believed to have won an entertainments award. **Galaxy Radio** (103.0) have also increased their power, and are now putting out a good signal. An unidentified soul station was heard on 89.7MHz., over the weekend, but it was too weak to make anything out. **Hits FM** were not heard by our reporter this Saturday, at least not in Essex. If they were on the air, they were masked by a strong signal from yet another soul station **Classic FM** who were heard also on 105.5MHz. Saturday also saw **London Rock** on the air, on their regular channel of 89.5MHz. However, this frequency has been occupied all week by **London Irish Community Radio**, who are broadcasting with around 150 watts, resulting in the almost complete obliteration of London Rock, apart from around their own transmission site. On Sunday, **Raiders FM** did not appear again, but **Rock FM** were on as normal on 94.3MHz. Stations heard during the past week include... **London Greek Radio** (88.4), **London Irish Community Radio** (89.5), **London Rock** (89.5), **RJR** (90.0), **Rock to Rock** (90.2), **Passion Radio** (90.6), **Faze 1** (91.0), **Sky FM** (91.7), **LWR** (92.1), **Studio FM** (92.7), **Solar 93** (93.0), **KISS FM** (93.95), **Rock FM** (94.3), **City Radio** (94.5), **R.F.L.** (96.1), **Traffic Jam** (97.9), **P.R.S.** (102.3), **WNK** (102.8), **Time Radio** (103.8), **J.B.C.** (104.3), **G.C.R.** (104.4) and **Classic Radio** (105.5). **City Radio** were on in the week, but had disappeared by Friday. **Solar 93** had been off the air all week, but returned on Friday evening. Perhaps they have now returned to a weekend only schedule?

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Activity in Leeds has been very quiet this week. With neither **ABC FM** (105.2) nor **Music City Radio** (90.3) being heard last weekend, the free radio listener only had **New Horizon FM** (91.8) to 'choose' from. In fact, this station was on most of last weekend, and also occasional evenings during the past seven days. At least one presenter must have 'defected' to Horizon from ABC, as he was heard almost announcing the station as ABC, but then quickly corrected himself. Continuous reggae and soul was heard on Thursday evening (31st March) on the old ABC channel of 105.2MHz., but no identification was heard until Friday morning (1st April), when **ABC FM** jingles and promotions were heard. Unfortunately these transmissions did not last too long, before they returned to blank carrier, then hiss, and then off. They had not returned by Saturday afternoon (2nd). **Music City Radio** (90.3) and **New Horizon FM** (91.8) were both on the air Friday evening (1st April), with Horizon being first to hit the airwaves during the afternoon. Horizon appeared to programme through the night, as tapes were still being aired on Saturday morning. **MCR** were back on by early Saturday afternoon.

W.L.N.G. (104.9) broadcast with their usual schedule on Tuesday 29th March, signing off at around 22:40.

Wednesday 23rd March saw **Radio Freedom** on the air with a test transmission on 105.2MHz, announcing 105MHz. The presenter heard was Dave Collins with rock music. No medium wave outlet was in use. They were heard from 20:00 until closedown at 22:45, with 'Land of Hope and Glory'!

North Midlands Radio (105) was heard last Sunday afternoon

between 15:00 and 17:00. Presenter Steve St. John was heard at up until 16:00, when a recording of NLV Radio of Keighley was relayed.

MANCHESTER. **WBLS** returned to the airwaves on Friday last, 1st April, on a slightly higher frequency of 102.6MHz. Unfortunately, this was on top of Signal Radio from Stoke, and the transmitter was switched off soon afterwards, presumably due to this. They have not been heard since but are expected back once the transmitter is re-aligned. **ICR** were planning to make a final broadcast last night, using very low power, on 103.5MHz. They are not expected to be back on the air and if they do return, there could possibly be a complete restructuring of the station. **Sunshine Radio** were also heard on Saturday night, on 92.1MHz., although the signal heard by our reporter in Cheshire, was said to be weak. Speaking of Cheshire, **Outlook 963** was reported by this same reporter, last Sunday evening, on the slightly higher frequency of 96.4MHz.

THE MIDLANDS. Both **PCRL** (103.6) and **Enterprise FM** (92.0 - announced as 91.9), appeared to have had an un-interupted week. Both stations are sounding well, and in stereo. **Powerhouse FM** (105.1) were heard every night from 18:00 until late, occasionally with a stereo signal. **Soul City Radio** (103.8) were back on air this morning, after problems early on last Sunday caused their transmissions to be cut short. No Asian stations have been heard, although a signal was heard in the week on 105.5MHz., with a lot of banging noises and Asian music in the background, suggesting an open microphone and someone building a studio! **Electro Radio** (95.1) was heard on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, playing a variety of music, suggesting that it has nothing to do with Second City Radio, who used to occupy this channel. **Sunshine Radio** were on air yesterday and again today, in fact, we received this signal on 1017kHz., thanks to good AM conditions this morning. The SW station, **Radio Orion**, were heard to mention an operation called 'Network', but no further details are at hand on this one.

NOTTINGHAM. After **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.0) disappeared suddenly on the morning of 24th March, they were not heard again until Friday evening, 25th, when the signal was once again loud and clear, and had significantly improved on previous broadcasts. The transmissions are in mono, although stereo is announced. The station have a promotion for potential advertisers, although no telephone number or address has been heard given out.

RENFREWSHIRE. **Riverside Radio** were in court during last week, but the case was adjourned, apparently after one of the solicitors asked the Sheriff to read up on the Wireless Telegraphy Act. He was apparently about to impose just a fine, and return all the equipment, including the transmitter! **Radio Mercury** are expected back on air on Wednesday to Saturday, with their normal schedule, on 96.1MHz. Starting the week after, a new schedule of Friday and Saturdays, 19:00 to 23:00 and Sundays, 14:00 to 18:00 will be implemented.

MERSEYSIDE. Early week, saw little action in this area, with the current three main stations being noted on Monday. They were **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz., **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz. and **Radio Julie** on 104.8MHz.

Nothing further was noted until Thursday when **Radio Merseywaves** appeared with normal programmes, announcing a five day week operation. **Radio Julie** apparently switched on themselves, sometime on Thursday, only to find that nothing was getting out very far. On further checking, it was discovered that the feed to the transmitter had been hacked through and the aerial system removed, apparently by the council. As a result, a temporary aerial was erected and the station was heard later in the day. Their signal was noticeably lower, although could still be received here in Blackpool.

Everything was as normal on Friday, with the three main stations audible on our frequent checks. Saturday saw the same pattern emerge, but in the early afternoon, we just caught the end of a message relayed on Julie which stated that the station may have to go off but hoped to be back later. They indeed, did, but returned shortly afterwards with continuous music. On checking later, this too, had disappeared and the station has not been noted since then. As we missed the main part of the message, we are not aware of what the problems here, were. The transmissions on 1242kHz., from **Radio Merseywaves**, were accompanied by a rather bad hum, suggesting that an off-channel operator

had come on air.

On Saturday evening, a tip off had us tuning to 105.2MHz., where we found **CD - FM**, announcing 'compact disc on FM'. The signal was excellent here, and for possibly the first time in ages, a station was audible, not over deviating, destroying the audio. The quality, as the signal, was indeed excellent. According to the direction we had our antenna pointing, it appeared that the signal may have been emanating from north of the city of Liverpool, possibly as far north as Formby or Southport, or even north Wales, although if it was the latter, it was either on high power, or coming from a very high location. A Max Hamilton was heard on the air, and he seemed to be accompanied by an engineer. They stated that they had not been on air for about 12 months (?). Possibly the occasional transmissions relaying legal stations on this channel some time ago were **CD - FM**? They did have one little scare, however, when a Sherpa van was noted lurking about outside the studio premises. They announced their closure at 22.00 and abruptly left the air shortly afterwards.

On Sunday morning, rather good medium wave conditions were apparent early and a quick check of the AM band yielded **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz., again, with an horrendous off channel hum accompanying their signal, **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz., but still with relatively weak transmissions and surprise, surprise, **Liverpool Pirate Radio** on 1413kHz. Phil Davis was noted on the air around 10:30 and he was reading out a schedule, suggesting they may be on all day, possibly longer. Reception was very poor, due to the low power being used, but good conditions allowed us to hear a few links and identifications. RMW station owner, Burt Williams, put in an appearance on Sunday afternoon and he was heard to do a documentary on recent raids on his station by the DTI. On FM, no stations were noted at all, not even **Veronica 104**, right up until time of printing at 15:30.

RADIO CAROLINE. Well, we went all through the week without a change in staff. The line - up remained almost exactly the same as last week, with the exception of a couple of exchanges in shifts. Whether this was due to boredom by some of the deejays, all whom had been on the air at least 5 weeks, is not known. Certainly, many comments were heard over the air, regarding the length of time they had been waiting for some shore leave. The shortwave service continued throughout the week, and the 'growling' noise was only apparent on certain days, and on others it was variable in intensity. The shortwave frequency was mentioned several times during announcements, in addition to the normal 558kHz outlet.

Good Friday arrived, and even with the calm seas, there was still no change in line - up. However, Saturday morning brought some long awaited new voices. Mike Watts was on the air from 01:00 until 05:00 early on Saturday morning (2nd April), and when he finished his show, it was the return of James Day, who greeted our ears. James programmed through until 09:00, when an extremely nervous sounding Richard Lee stumbled his way through the news. There had been no bulletins at 07:00 or 08:00, so it was probably the fact that he had just been thrust into the studio at the last minute, which caused the problems. Richard then programmed through until 13:00, when another familiar voice was heard, that of Paul Graham. Paul was not to be the last of the old voices, as at 17:00, Peter Philips re - appeared following several weeks shore leave. He had a disastrous start to his show, when he played the 'news outro' cart, at the start of the news, but then proceeded to get well into his show once more. It was not to be for long however, as the station left the air at 18:36. This was an announced closure, and 'unforeseeable circumstances' were given as the reason. They promised to return at 05:00 on Sunday morning, but it was actually around 05:24 when James Day signed on. The station's 24th anniversary was mentioned, but at the time of writing, no special programmes have actually been produced. A birthday cake sent in by the Thanet Branch of the Caroline Movement was to be cut later on Sunday, but whether this was going to be done on the air is not known. Chris Kennedy remains on the vessel, and so this means that Steve Conway, Robbie Jay, Steve Masters, and Alex appear to have gone on shore leave.

A new promotion (at least to us) has been heard for **Lotto 6/49**. In it, a few of the recent winners and their prizes are mentioned. Up and coming Caroline Rock Shows continue to be promoted also.

THE VOICE OF PEACE.

Reports from this area have been regular, but events at the station, almost non-existent. Very few problems have been reported until recently, regarding transmissions. On Monday evening, 14th March, the ship ceased broadcasting, upped anchor and sailed into the port of Ashdod for the purpose of taking on fuel, water and day to day supplies. The ship returned to the high seas next day and resumed broadcasting around midday, sailing as it broadcast, arriving at its anchorage 'somewhere in the Mediterranean', around 17:00. Apparently, station owner, Abie Nathan, has had a proposal put to him from a religious Jewish organisation, to have an hour of prayers aired each week. Abie has said that he would like to try it, but as yet nothing has been heard. On Monday, 21st, both AM and FM transmitters left the air at 06:00. The AM transmitter returned at 06:01 but the FM one remained silent until later in the afternoon. The following day saw Steve Cromby and Kenny Page return from their shore leave with Martin Murphy and Michael O'Sullivan going off on the tender. On Wednesday, 23rd, both transmitters left the air again, at 08:00 and remained silent until midday. Further problems were noted and the station was silent completely when the report was posted on 27th. Apparently, work is being done in preparation for a new FM transmitter. The line-up at the time of writing read... 00:00 Steve Cromby, 03:00 Paul Fraser, 06:00 Kenny Page, 09:00 Ian Hudson, 13:00 John McDonald, 14:00 Abie Nathan, 16:00 Kenny Page, 18:00 Paul Fraser, 19:30 John McDonald, 22:00 Ian Hudson.

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All over Ireland Radio Stations are making the switch to compact discs don't be the last in your market to go "C.D."

Subscribing stations in Ireland already include... Kiss F.M. ... Heartbeat ... K.I.T.S. ... Sunshine 101.

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SHORTWAVE STATIONS.

Log for Good Friday 1st April 1988.

6210kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 09:45gmt.
6220kHz...RADIO FAX, at 09:50gmt.
6233kHz...RADIO WM, at 10:00gmt.
6290kHz...RADIO WM, at 10:24gmt.
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:10gmt.
6299kHz...WABC, at 09:30gmt.
6305kHz...B.R.I., at 10:16gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:33gmt.

Conditions were reasonable this particular morning, and a couple of expected 'April Fools' took place. Radio Orion were late up, and didn't have a suitable 'fool' prepared, and so they went around the band to find the best available. hence the relays of BBC Radio WM. The most involved 'fool' (we presume it was anyway), appeared on 6220kHz., with extracts being read about various aspects of radio. This went on all morning, at least until we stopped logging at around 12:00gmt. The following announcement was heard on the station.... "We are on the air to demonstrate the kind of service we will be providing every day of the week, starting during the summer. What we are seeking is a license to transmit from the United Kingdom, instead of hiring transmission facilities abroad. If you would like our specially printed QSL card please send 50p in British stamps, or three International Reply Coupons to : Radio Fax, 1 High Ash Farm, Caistor St. Edmunds NR14 8RH, England, and don't forget, that every letter we receive, helps our application for a licence to transmit from England". This broadcast could still be heard for the following few days, so perhaps the transmitter is remote, and using a loop tape. Does anyone remember the Capital Radio relay several years ago? - that went on for several days, and the source of that one was also a mystery. The same tape was noted at 00:15gmt., on Saturday night, on 1611kHz.

Log for Saturday 2nd April 1988.

6210kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 11:10gmt.
6220kHz...RADIO FAX, at 11:15gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:19gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 11:21gmt.

Log for Sunday 3rd April 1988.

6210kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 07:43gmt.
6220kHz...RADIO FAX, at 08:00gmt.
6233kHz...FREESOUND RADIO, at 11:44gmt.
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 10:05gmt.
6240kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:10gmt.
6240kHz...W.L.R., at 11:05gmt.
6256kHz...UNID., at 10:00gmt.
6268kHz...RADIO BLOND PIRAAT, at 08:02gmt.
6275kHz...RADIO DELTA, at 11:30gmt.
6280kHz...UNID., at 09:20gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:02gmt.
6285kHz...RADIO DIAMOND, at 08:12gmt.
6299kHz...WABC, at 12:47gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO LIMIT INT., at 10:07gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:47gmt.
6305kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:46gmt.
6318kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 08:41gmt.
6318kHz...'CRUISIN' SOLID GOLD', at 11:57gmt.
6320kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:20gmt.
6820kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO, at 11:52gmt.
6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 10:42gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 08:58gmt.
7325kHz...RADIO DELTA, at 08:40gmt.
7366kHz...RADIO AQUARIUS, at 08:46gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO LUCE, 08:18gmt.
7429kHz...W.L.R., at 08:855gmt.
7490kHz...RADIO STELLA, at 08:58gmt.

Conditions on SW today certainly started better than of late and stayed good for much of the morning. Logs in BOLD were made here in Blackpool, others were kindly telephoned in (best time is between 13:30 and 14:30bst) by loggers in the Midlands and London.

Radio Caroline was noted quite early and we later learned that they returned to the air, following possible generator problems the previous evening, at 04:24gmt.

We have been informed that as from 1st April, the mailing address for FMTR and Star International have been changed to 231 Loose Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 7DR.

Radio East Coast Commercial will be broadcasting on 6815kHz., from now on. Broadcast hours will be 10:00 till 13:00gmt. The address remains... P.O. Box 5 Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 5AU.

Our usual thanks to all contributors again this week, for cuttings, photos, news reports, info, logs and all the other things that arrive to keep WR ahead of the rest when it comes to being 'the first with the news in print'.

The WEEKLY REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 206..... 10th April 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

We always find in this business, that no sooner has one station vanished than another takes its place and this has happened in the past week or so here, with the closure of Energy Power 103 from Dublin and the opening of Kiss FM from Monaghan town. At the time of the closure, we thought we had lost a choice, but the gap left was quickly filled by the latter, whose professionalism and enthusiasm matched the former. We think other listeners may see stations close, as a result of the authorities' warning that to continue illegally would rule out the chance of a licence. We also think that yet further stations will spring up and take their places, as it will be quite a long time before we see these new licensed outfits operational, and who knows, the Government may get 'cold feet' again and abandon the whole idea like they did before! In Ireland, the proposed radio bill has been shelved for at least a year, in favour of far more important matters. This has come as no surprise, as it has happened so many times before, but we all really thought this time would see something going through.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each week from Blackpool. The cost is only 20p and to become a postal subscriber, the following rates apply.... posted first class within the U.K., or to any E.E.C. country, including Eire, the cost is 40p..... posted second class, within the U.K. only, 35p..... posted at full rate to non - E.E.C. countries like Sweden, Switzerland, Finland or Norway, 45p and posted elsewhere by air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate. We note that one of our colleagues has registered at the post office as a newspaper. This means that he can post out first class, paying only second class rate. We think that he will have his work cut out ensuring his subscribers receive the magazine the next day and it will be interesting to note what percentage actually do. Once a second class stamp or frank is spotted, no one looks for the small writing and it ends up in the appropriate second class box.

ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT and reach almost 800 subscribers each time you do so. It is very cheap and costs only £20 for a full page, £11 for a half page and £6 for a quarter. All we need is a good quality copy of the advert/promo, the necessary remittance and leave the rest to us. Delays in printing an advert are not uncommon and are usually caused by us having rather a lot of news on that particular week. If in doubt, please telephone (0253) 882017. 1000 non - subscribing members are about to be circulated, interested advertisers are invited to contact us now with a view to joining in on this exercise.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE will keep you informed of what's going on in between reports. Ring (0795) 511118 and hear a regularly up-dated three minute (approx.) message. This line operates from the Kent area to give you some idea of the distance involved for the call charge. It is a standard telephone line and not a 'BT Moneymaker'. The latter have a code of 0898 and can be very expensive especially at peak times, although, in fairness, the law states that call charges must be shown at all times. If you have news for us, then ring Blackpool (0253) 882017 or in the event of no reply, (0795) 511119 and leave your message on the Answerphone.

"COMMUNICATE '88" will take place on Saturday 24th September in the Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in the centre of Blackpool. Accommodation, if you wish to stay, should be booked at once, as it is the very busy Illuminations period, and we have some brochures and telephone numbers to help. Send an SAE requesting same. We plan to show slides and videos continuously in certain sections of the hall, covering all areas of radio, offshore, Irish, land - based and short wave and if anyone has anything they think people would like to see, especially if it is in good quality, maybe they could get in touch. Celebrities from all corners of the pirate radio world will be appearing on the main stage and will be there to answer questions posed by the audience. Sales stands, displays of past memorabilia and short lectures covering the history of pirate radio will also be included. Background music will be provided by the Caroline North Roadshow with Dave Simpson. The event will be 100% pirate radio and is not intended to overlap, over-ride or in any way out-do any broadcasting conventions planned for this year. We expect it to be the only one of its kind, this year.

NEW MERCHANDISE. Nothing new this week, the last items being World Radio & TV Handbook 1988 (£17.95) and Offshore Echo's Issue No. 70 (£1.90).

NEW ARRIVALS. Just four in this section this week.... **Now Radio**, Issue 51. 24 pages of across the board radio news and information, details from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **F.R.S. goes DX**, Issue 68/69. 24 pages here too, with the emphasis this time on offshore and shortwave, but also including interviews and readers letters and a questionnaire to fill in. Details from FRS Holland, Postbus 41, 7700 AA Dedemsvaart, The Netherlands..... **Freewave Magazine**, Issue 160. 24 pages yet again, with general European radio coverage. A few photos, but all Dutch text. Details from Hans Knot, Postbus 102, 9700 AC Groningen, Holland..... All the above three magazines are in A5 format. Finally, **CLCG Magazine**, Issue 129 contains a wad of A4 pages stapled together. General European radio news here, too, details from CLCG, Postfach 540101, 4100 Duisburg 11, West Germany.

TAPE OFFER. This week we start off with Tape 184 which kills two birds with one stone as they say. In fact the station is **KISS FM**, the new operation based in Co. Monaghan in the Irish Republic, and who beam in their signal towards Belfast. This particular recording, features Z-100 (New York) favourite Scott Shannon, and his 'Rockin America Top 40' show, as broadcast last Sunday, 3rd April. Of course, the ad. breaks contain commercials made at Kiss, although a couple of the original U.S. ads. are also heard. Following the end of Scott's show, we hear Dennis Murray, whom many Dublin listeners will remember for his programmes on the

original KISS FM in the city, and who was also a regular voice in the late 70's radio scene. To London now, and we tune in to yet another of the seven day soul / reggae operations which serve the capital. Tape 185 finds us with **Rock to Rock** (RTR) recorded over lunchtime on Thursday 24th March, and who, despite their name, do not play rock music. Staying in London for Tape 186, we follow up the unusual Greek language community station featured last week, with a recording of the new sound of **London Irish Community Radio**, on air now for just over a week. This recording features an unusual format of country music and early rock n'roll, interspersed with Irish community news. Finally, we travel a little North of London, to Luton, where Tape 187 gives you a chance to listen to **Jive FM**, a reggae/soul station for this area, and which can occasionally be heard in the capital. This one was recorded on Saturday afternoon, 26th March. All tapes are recorded off - air and cost just £2.00 each, including postage and packing. We have no nostalgia tape to offer this week, but we did make one small mistake with last week's SP 4 tape of Radio Nova's 'AM stereo' hoax. The deejay was Tony McKenzie and not Dave Christian as stated.

WANTED. A copy of 'Sons and Daughters' TV theme song, preferably in English... J.G. Wilson, 41 Grassholme, Woodthorpe, York YO2 2ST.

GENERAL. Following our mention of SW aerials in last week's issue, Chris in Kent writes and gives us the name of a firm who do make such an aerial. We shall contact them this week and make further mention in next week's issue. We understand the item is quite inexpensive. On the subject of inexpensive things, Chris goes on to tell us that he finds

the Sangean ATS 803A, costing just £99.00, good value and works on SW very well. The receiver is the same as the Matsui MR 4099 and is available at Comet. Dixons sell the same set under the name of Saisho SW 5000, at £129.00 and Tandy, as the Realistic DX 440, at £149.95. If anyone owns and uses one of these, they might like to write in too and let us know how they find this moderately priced set.

WANTED. Volunteers from anywhere to send taped shows to a Dublin station. Also D.J.'s and news-readers to go live on air in Dublin at the weekends. Demos please to Shay Brennan, Rhythm FM, 31 Finsbury Park, Churchtown, Dublin 14, Eire.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND. In Dublin, this week brought the return to breakfast listening of the long - missed comedian of the skies, Mike Hogan. A new advertising deal has been set up between Q-102 and The Star newspaper, and the result is the return of traffic information via, not the former 'Eye in the Sky', but the 'Star in the Sky' (the 'Star' being the paper and not the man!). A new set of promotions is being aired especially for this purpose, along with a competition to win a flight across the city in the helicopter, alongside Mike and a guest celebrity. Certainly makes sitting in the traffic more entertaining. The 738kHz. outlet, purchased from the now defunct Energy 103, is still well down in power. We believe that this transmitter may be moved, as the site being used is not a particularly good one. Better FM conditions this past week, made all four FM outlets (99.9 / 101.9 / 102.3 / 103.0MHz.) audible in the West of the U.K. mainland. Easter Monday, always a day for 'specials' like 'all time top 100's' etc., started with a superb show from Jason Maine on Q 102, at 06:00, featuring many oldies, some not heard for many a year. At the end of his show, at 10:00, we were still riveted to the set and noting classics like 'Caroline', 'Rinky Dink', 'Midnight Hour' and many more 60's favourites being played. At the end of his show, we tuned to RTE's special, 'listeners Top 100' in the absence of anyone else doing such a programme, but despite some good music, not that much we might add, the deejays sounded plastic, boring and most unenthusiastic about the whole thing, which was a pity really. Frank in Cork has written the whole 100 out and if anyone would like a photocopy, they only have to mention it to us and we will send one. Q 102 did a similar (better) feature back in 1986 and if anyone has a listing of this, Frank would like a copy, as he is into these top 100 things and has not a listing of this one.

There has certainly been plenty of shuffling about of staff over the past weeks, on the city's many stations, following the closure of Energy 103, and the beginning of Millennium 88 FM. The news on Liberties 104 now seems to be compiled and read by Tina Gates and Michael Mahon, following the departure of Kieran Murray for Millenium. Also on Liberties 104, Dennis Murray has been heard in the afternoon, in addition to his weekend show on KISS FM (Monaghan). Bob Gallico and Siobahn Purcell continue to share the news duties on Treble T R Radio, with ex Energy, Lisa Moore heard there also. CAU FM were heard here in Blackpool this week, due to good conditions, on 104.3MHz., although they were announcing 104.2 during the time we listened. They seemed quite professional and custom jingles and numerous adverts were noted. KLAS 98 FM (98.5), with their easy listening format, were also monitored here with a strong signal, in between local (to us) police messages (will the U.K. ever have a clear FM band?). Additionally, Radio Dublin were noted on 105.2MHz., along with the many Sunshine 101 FM transmissions. Between the top two Dublin stations, no fewer than 12 frequencies are used, 6 each!

Co. LOUTH. Following the mention of Radio Carousel being heard on three channels, 1125, 1260 and 1386kHz., the 1260kHz. one being particularly strong (over-riding the ILR 'local'), both 1125 and 1260 have disappeared and not been heard all week by us. 1386kHz. however, continues as normal. With all the changes in frequency and location, we wonder if the whole operation is being re-structured. Heady Eddie of Boyneside Radio was heard to say on air, that they had plans to move into the Carrickdale Hotel, formerly occupied by Radio Carousel.

Co. KILDARE. We only seem to be able to receive Kildare Community Radio on 1413kHz. on Sundays and wonder if this is the only time they operate now.

Co. CORK. Little news of note from the South, ERI are still missing Jim Lockhart and it is now wondered if the popular morning presenter has left the station altogether.

ACTIVITY Magazine

ACTIVITY MAGAZINE is a new monthly publication devoted to free radio and the very first issue is out now! Amongst other items you will find,

'Skywave' A must for short wave fans - a very comprehensive review of sw activity from the U.K., Eire and the continent with station reports for March and a feature on Radio Kristel Int'l. Plus listings and schedules, and QSL's and medium wave news!

'City Scene' A review of the stations heard from London, the country's most active region, at our listening post in Essex.

'Pirates of the Past' We go back in time to remember the early 80's station, South London Radio, which operated from 1980 to 1982.

This is a selection of just some of the items you will find in the April issue of ACTIVITY.

To order your copy, simply send £1 to the address below. Your cheques or postal orders should be made payable to P.S. Willsher.

Activity,
3 Greenway,
Harold Park,
Romford,
Essex, RM3 0HH.

Co. WATERFORD. Andy Green of ABC Radio in Waterford was heard live on Radio West this morning and he said that all at ABC were disappointed with the shelved legislation plans. They intend to introduce more relays to some of the hilly areas around the south east.

Co. MONAGHAN. News of further transmitters on the air from this region, with KITS FM introducing a medium wave outlet on 837kHz. to compliment their 100.9MHz. outlet. Apparently operating on low power, we have no chance of hearing this one due to a BBC 'local' on the same channel. The FM signal has been audible and checked out from time to time during the better conditions in the week.

According to talk on this morning's Radio West free radio show, plans are in hand for both Boyneside Radio and Radio West to introduce Monaghan relays in view of the abandoned legislation plans.

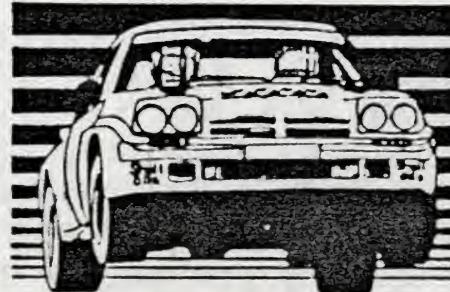
Well, after some problems at the beginning of last week, KISS FM certainly appear to have got off to a good start. Following the completion of their mast (it blew down in the storms of several weeks ago), the FM signal on 103.7MHz. was running at around only 150 watts. Despite this, we were able to receive it here in Blackpool, along with the odd fade. By Monday, the signal had increased a lot, and it is believed that the 1kW transmitter was being used. Certainly, by the signal received here on the 'side lobe', the main target area of Belfast should be getting good stereo. We understand that a 5kW FM transmitter is also at the site, and work is being carried out in order to put this on the air to send KISS FM even further afield. Reports from Belfast tell us that the signal is very strong in the city, whilst all other cross-border operators can only be heard in parts of the city. Last week, only 1008kHz. was being announced, but now the FM is on good power, the AM hardly gets a mention. Plenty of American voice overs have been heard for all the presenters. The old Radio Nova slogan of 'broadcasting all over Belfast (etc.) now!' has been introduced. All the presenters are now beginning to get into their own programmes, and as the weeks go by, they will each introduce their own personalised features. The current weekday line-up remains... 06:00 Nick Richards... 10:00 Tom Hardy... 14:00 Owen Barry... 19:00 John Friday. Tapes are played through the night at present, but even these are very entertaining with adverts, jingles and promos played as normal, and not just non-stop music. The information opposite top left, was reprinted from a 'flyer' produced to advertise both the station and the rally. Thousands of them, along with KISS FM 103.7 stickers, were distributed on the streets of Belfast at



**IRELAND'S No. 1 RALLY DRIVER
IS BACK, BERTIE FISHER IS THE
FASTEAST MAN IN RALLYING.**

**KISS FM 103.7 ARE THE FASTEST
GROWING SOUND IN IRELAND.**

**TUNE INTO
A GREAT
PARTNERSHIP!!!!**



**BERTIE FISHER IS CO-SPONSORED BY
FORD, SHELL, PIRELLI and ALUMAC.**

**FOR UP TO THE MINUTE
RALLY REPORTS:**

KISS FM 103.7/1008 AM



the start of the rally, much to the annoyance of local ILR station Downtown Radio (DTR). The race was covered by KISS FM, with regular up-to-date reports. Unfortunately, Bertie crashed whilst in 4th position.

Co. DONEGAL. Word reaches us from WABC on the Inishowen Peninsula that their medium wave transmitter on 1242kHz should be back on the air by the 20th April. This transmission was previously audible with an aerial here in Blackpool. The station is currently operating on 101.7MHz in stereo with a reasonable output of around 900 watts, and beams into Coleraine and surrounding areas of Ulster. The main FM site is to be moved shortly from the studio site (230ft above sea level) to a new position at around 600ft, and so the signal should cover a much larger area as a result. The station had had a setback when several items were stolen recently, including three new cassette decks and a stereo transmitter. The transmitter was eventually recovered. Their shortwave transmitter is now back on the air around 6299kHz., following a few problems last week. WABC was recently six months on the air, and as the above left 'flyer' mentions, the station celebrated by going out on the road with all its deejays.

Elsewhere in Donegal, North West Community Radio who operate on both 1116kHz and 1008kHz, are understood to be having a few reception problems in the fringe areas of their 1008kHz transmitter, due to the powerful 5kW signal from KISS FM. We understand that the two stations are negotiating to sort out this problem. A similar problem was resolved between KISS FM and Northern Star, both in Co. Monaghan, when Northern Star agreed to move to 1116kHz.

HOT HITS 101

MORE MUSIC RADIO

**THE
ROADSHOW
IS COMING!**

W.A.B.C. is celebrating six months of "Hot-Hits" Radio by bringing the voices from inside your wireless sets right into your town.

Quizzes, Prizes and lots of surprises.

Dates include:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Fri. 11 March | Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush |
| Tues. 15 March | Manor Hotel, Ballymoney |
| Fri. 18 March | Royal Hotel, Ballycastle |
| Wed. 30 March | Jensen's Night Club, Gorteen, Limavady |
| Fri. 8 April | Magherabuoy House Hotel, Portrush |

Not Forgetting — "SOLID GOLD"

If you are aged 18-80 and love the hits of the 50's, 60's and 70's, "Golden Oldies Night" on Tuesday 22nd March at Bohill Auto Inn, Coleraine All venues commence at 9.00 p.m. All admissions are £2.50 with the exception of the Magherabuoy £3.00

W.A.B.C.

Tel: 0860-534438



Dear WEEKLY REPORT reader

MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS, issue no 1 is now available, we will be specialising in OFFSHORE RADIO, and also reporting on any developments with regard to the proposed SEALAND TELEVISION project.

In issue no 1, we do in fact have an article about Sealand. We also have information on how to improve your medium and short wave reception.

As a regular feature there will be an OFFSHORE QUIZ in every issue, and we hope that readers will get involved in setting quizzes for us!

Also in every issue we will have the CAROLINE LINE-UP chart, telling you who was on the air in the previous month, and when. Plus any interesting news about the station.

There will be a section featuring press cuttings, from recent, and not so recent newspapers; in fact some dating back to 1964.

We would like you to participate as much as possible to the content of this magazine, so, if you have some ideas..... please let us know.

If you would like to subscribe to MARINE BROADCASTING NEWS, the price per monthly issue posted first class to inland UK is £1.30. The price per monthly issue posted to all EEC and non-EEC countries is £1.70. You may subscribe for as many issues as you like. Please make cheques, postal orders, etc., payable to: NORTH SEA PRODUCTIONS, and forward to the address shown below. If paying in cash, please make sure that any coins you may include are secured to a piece of card etc, THANKYOU.

Marine Broadcasting News
PO Box 963
CLACTON ON SEA
Essex
CO15 6ED

FOR SALE. S.I.S. NAB Cartridge Player / Recorder. Unit approx. 4 years old. Heads in good condition, but requires servicing as the machine is slightly erratic, hence price £80 (cost when new £450). Also, **WANTED** in the next couple of months, an Alice 828 or similar mixer. Broadcast spec. - no disco mixers please - 8 channels minimum, with P.S. Gain, talkover, and remote start facilities. Good price paid for right equipment. All enquiries regarding the above two items (Cartridge player 'For Sale' and Mixer 'Wanted') to Chris Dannatt, c/o 6 Vicarage Gardens, Wrawby, Brigg, South Humberside DN20 8SA. Telephone (0652) 57378 (daytime), or (0652) 54754 (answerphone).

ADVERTISEMENT. High quality male voice jingles. Digitally recorded by TopTrax. £4 (per 6 words), which includes 4 sub-mixes with sampling, digital echo etc. TopTrax Studios, 9 Oak Tree Drive, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 4NN.

***** BETAMAX VIDEOS FOR SALE *****

"A Day in the Life of Radio Caroline".....£10
Pink Floyd "Final Cut".....£5
Billy Squires "Live".....£5
Twisted Sister "Stay Hungry".....£5

All the above are Betamax format. Telephone, Barbara & Eddie Cox on Basildon 415549 for further information.

LAND-BASED STATIONS. The purge against the operators in all areas seems to have recommenced during these past few days, following a quiet Easter weekend, just as stations were beginning to get back to normal once more. Ever since the injection of extra money to the DTI, some weeks ago, they seem to have not only intensified their actions to get rid of stations, but also increased the force used to enter premises, using the powers of entrace granted to them some three years ago. So beware of axes and sledgehammers!

BRISTOL. News now, of the past two weeks activity in this city. The first day of Spring, Monday 21st March brought Radio F.T.P. (104.0 - mono) to the air at 17:00. The 'Soul Force' crew, now regulars on the station, presented the first show with hip-hop, soul and house music. Their audio that evening was a little tinny, but did improve later on. Programming went on until late in the night. The 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, all saw the Radio F.T.P. commence broadcasts around 17:00, with a similar line-up. The old problem of low microphone levels has made speech difficult to comprehend on top of loud passages of music, during many programmes all week. Saturday afternoon, 26th March saw the station on the air late, but when they did appear, the audio quality was excellent, with the programmes appearing to be live. Included were promotions for a forthcoming night out, on Easter Eve, 2nd April. Sunday (27th March) saw the regular Gospel show at 17:00, although they had obviously not changed their clocks, as after a short time the 'Soul Force' crew appeared with their show which should have been on at that time. The excellent 'Senior Citizens Hour' was also kept in the programming, and went out at 19:00. Radio For The People continued with their seven day schedule during the week 28th March - 1st April. They were on the air each night from around 17:00, although on Thursday were late on, due to being in London 'picking up a few records'. This brings us up to the Bank Holiday weekend with just one station currently operating in Bristol. Nothing has been heard from B.A.D. Radio for several weeks, following their short comeback after the raid of 13th February. 103.5 FM has not been heard at all since the first week in January. Perhaps one, or both of these stations will have returned to do a special Easter broadcast. We wait to see, when Terry kindly sends us his next Bristol report.

THE SOUTH COAST. On Easter Monday, 4th April at 12 noon, Channel Radio was broadcasting on 105MHz., in stereo, to the Solent area, with a pop / oldie format. The station was on the air throughout the afternoon, with a very good signal along the Solent. No mailing address was given out.

Radio Boulogne Littoral (R.B.L. - 91.6MHz.) still broadcasts its English service Saturday, Sunday and Monday evenings, in stereo, to the Kent and Sussex coasts. Information on its March programming is re-printed below from the local free magazine "Sound's Good".

RBL NEWS MARCH 1988

RBL, "South Kent's More Music Station", heads towards the Spring of 1988 with more competitions, more prizes and more quality

music on 91.6 FM Stereo. We've also slightly re-shuffled our programme schedule and as from March 1988 our line-up looks like this:-

SATURDAY NIGHTS

9.30 Jeff Johnson
11.00 RBL Remembers with
Pete Simester
12.30 Rock Store with
Mark Allen &
Martin Standen

02.00 RBL Night Tracks

SUNDAY NIGHTS

10.00 Martin Standen
11.30 Dave Richards
01.00 Graham Taylor
02.30 RBL Night Tracks

MONDAY NIGHTS

7.00 - 8.30 Mark Daniels
8.30 - 10.00 Mark Allen
10.00 - 11.30 Tony Richards
11.30 - 01.00 Paul Graham
01.00 - 05.00 RBL Night-Shift

If you're a fan of quality rock music from artists like Genesis, David Bowie, Eric Clapton, Bon Jovi, Queen and Bruce Springsteen then we suggest that you give a listen to the "re-vamped" RBL Rock Store at 12.30 on a Saturday night.

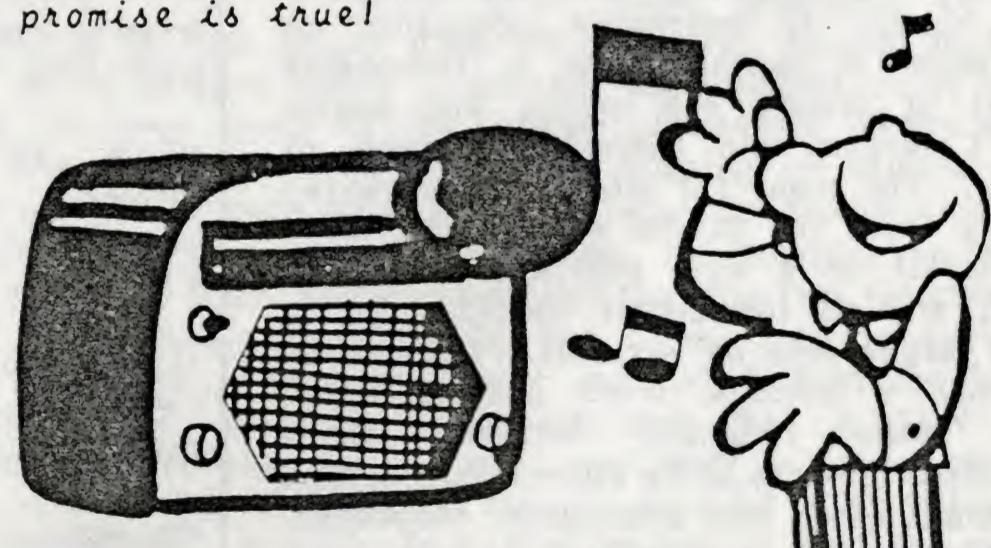
However, if you prefer a bit of real nostalgia then the time is Saturday night at 11.00 when Pete Simester turns back the clock and brings you 90 minutes of classic oldies from the 60's, 70's and early 80's on "RBL Remembers". RBL is always on the lookout for tapes and records produced by local groups and artists from South Kent. So, if you have a good quality tape or record which you would like to hear played on RBL send it to the following address: RBL Local Groups, 84 Mill Hill, Deal, Kent CT14 9JB. It might just be you're first step on the road to stardom!

Just in case you haven't yet tuned into RBL here's a guide to finding us on the FM dial:

| | RADIO 2 LOCAL | RADIO 3 LONDON | RBL | RADIO 3 LOCAL | RADIO INVICTA | RADIO KENT |
|----|------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| FM | 90.0 | 91.3 | 91.6 STEREO | 92.4 | 97.0 | 104.2 |

And finally, remember that More Music Guarantee, we promise that you'll hear more music per hour on RBL than on any other FM station Broadcasting to South Kent.

Why not tune in and you'll see that our promise is true!



YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE. Friday, 1st April saw South Yorkshire regular, Rebel Radio on the air with Scooter Jones, around 105.4MHz. The transmitter kept cutting out for short periods during the first hour, but improved later. 'Scooter' also programmed on the evening of Easter Monday, with his usual mixture of oldies.

All three stations were on the air in Leeds last weekend Music City Radio (90.3), People's FM (91.8) and ABC FM (105.15). The strongest of the three at present, seems to be M.C.R. who can be heard as far South as Sheffield, and across towards Keighley in the West. This is despite them being squashed in between a lot of BBC Radio 2 relay transmitters. M.C.R. now seem to be firmly sticking to their weekend schedule, and are not heard at all on weekday evenings (except Friday). People's FM (formerly Horizon) still do not seem to have a set schedule, and as well as the regular weekend operation, are often on the air during the

week, sometimes with only continuous music. A visit to the city yesterday found that this station was so close to BBC Radio 3, than even just a couple of miles from the transmitter, the a.f.c. on a portable radio cassette pulled to Radio 3. **ABC FM (105.15)** have been heard on all checks made on them, since their return to the air last Sunday. All the Leeds stations play a variety of soul, disco and reggae music.

Nothing has been heard in the Bradford area for some time, and up in Keighley, Alan sends us sad news of a raid on the popular community station **NLV Radio**. The raid occurred on Thursday 31st March. Alan says that he monitored the station on this particular morning, which appeared at 07:00 as usual. At 10:00, Mad Murdoch commenced his show and ten minutes later, audio problems were noted with a 'tuning tone' breaking in and out intermittently. At around 10:20, Murdoch announced that they were having transmitter problems, but would try to sort it out as soon as possible. Then at 10:25 they disappeared and haven't been heard since. This was a great shame, as a few days previous to the raid they announced that from 2nd April they would be on air also on Saturday and Sunday, making a seven day schedule. Despite the raid, their 'Kid's Disco' at a local club went ahead, raising money for a local charity. Pennine Radio again seem to be the culprit in getting this local community station raided. As with Calderdale Sound (Todmorden) back in 1984, they complained to the DTI that the station was covering Pennine's own area. In fact, we hear that the reception of Pennine in Keighley, as in Todmorden is poor, with RTE Radio 2 causing interference on their 1278kHz. outlet. Once again the choice of listening has been reduced due to the selfishness of ILR. And after all, NLV would hardly have made a dent in the advertising revenue of Pennine Radio, with only 10 watts of power.

Elsewhere, in Hull, Radio Takoradi have still not been heard. However posters around the city have been seen advertising the arrival of a fresh new sound to the airwaves. This apparently takes the form of 'Coming soon to your airwaves... Radio F.M., listen to 105 for more details...'. We hope to have more details on this new 'sound', whenever it is heard. An interesting signal was heard, also in Hull on Wednesday night (6th) on 91.6MHz, where non-stop music was heard, with no announcements. Later on, the Yorkshire Radio Network programme was relayed. Does anyone know the source?

W.L.N.G. (104.9) are sticking to their Tuesday and Thursday evening schedule, and were monitored on 31st March as well as twice last week, on 5th and 7th April. Their transmissions usually last two hours and start at 20:30.

North Midlands Radio (105.5) were on the air on 3rd April (Easter Sunday), with a three hour broadcast from 19:00 until 22:00.

THE MIDLANDS. All stations seemed to have operated as normal once again this past week, apart from the Asian language stations who haven't been heard at all, by any of our correspondents. **Radio P.C.R.L. (103.6)** and **Enterprise FM (92.0)** are both still running a 7 day / 24 hour schedule. **Radio P.C.R.L.** have been having some transmitter problems and have been heard with signals as high as 104MHz., although they are usually around 103.6MHz. **Enterprise FM** are still announcing 91.9MHz., despite operating on 92.0MHz., which is a little further away from Radio 3. **Powerhouse Radio** or **P.H.R. (105.1)** as in previous weeks, have operated each night from 18:00, until well after midnight. **Electro Radio (95.1)** operated on Monday, Thursday Friday and Saturday evenings. **Bedside Radio** were heard playing an old tape on 105.5MHz., on Monday evening. The tape was announcing 94.2MHz. Finally, **Heatwave Community Radio** are still operating with a good signal, with their seven day format of reggae and soul to the Nottingham area. They can be received as far away as Chesterfield and Birmingham, on 105.15MHz.

SHROPSHIRE. 'WR, Shropshire's Hot FM' presents exclusively in two 45 minute parts and starting on Sunday April 24th 1988 between 12:00 and 12:45, Shropshire's number one band T'Pau, as recorded live at the Birmingham Powerhouse on Sunday 13th December 1987. This can be heard only on **WR 105MHz FM**. The second part will hopefully be aired on 28th May at the same time.

LONDON. Sid's report was delayed in the post this week, so we are just covering the past few days occurrences. A new station calling itself **Mainline Radio** popped up early last week, in the rather crowded area of 97.7MHz. It is understood that the spread of the signal took it across both

Chiltern and Traffic Jam, located just to either side. It didn't last long, and hasn't been heard since Tuesday. The DTI were back out with their transmitter collection vans, following a holiday at Easter. Seven stations were noted off the air on Tuesday evening (5th) including **RJR**, **Rock to Rock**, **London Irish Community Radio**, **R.F.L.**, **Solar 93**, **Greek Community Radio** and **Classic FM**, suggesting visits. Most were back within a few days. Also last Tuesday, **TKO (102.4)** made a return to the air after a two week absence. They were noted with a fairly strong signal, but the audio was not as good as previously. They had disappeared by Sunday. Also gone again this weekend, after their return to the air two weeks ago, was **LWR (92.1)**, and **Solar 93 (93.0)**. Both these stations operated during the week. Another station to make a comeback in these expensive times, was **Starpoint Radio**, who return on the new frequency of 93.2MHz. They are announcing a Sunday only schedule, with an address of 197 Stockwell Road, London SW9. **Hits FM (105.5)** were on the air again this week, after missing last Saturday due to **Classic FM** being on the same channel. Their signal apparently started off good, but gradually deteriorated until it was inaudible any distance from the transmitter. Stations monitored this week include...**L.G.R. (88.4)**, **London Irish Community Radio (89.6)**, **RJR (90.9)**, **Rock to Rock (90.4)**, **Sina Radio (90.8)**, **Faze 1 (91.0)**, **Sky FM (91.7)**, **LWR (92.1)**, **Starpoint Radio (93.2)**, **KISS FM (94.0)**, **Rock FM (94.3)**, **City Radio (94.5)**, **R.F.L. (96.1)**, **Mainline Radio (97.7)**, **Traffic Jam (97.9)**, **Fresh FM (103.35)**, **Time Radio (103.8)**, **JBC (104.3)**, **G.C.R. (104.4)** and **Hits FM (105.5)**. Finally, an unidentified station was heard on Thursday night, playing country and western music on 90.55MHz.

ESSEX. **Stomp FM (105.4)** were heard once again this weekend with a big signal in the Hornchurch area. They were giving out an address of 244 High Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex. In the Southend district, **Canvey Radio** have been having a hard time in recent weeks with the local DTI officer. Although they only broadcast on a Sunday, within minutes of the station switching on he is there taking the transmitter. Several 300 watt transmitters along with aerials are understood to have been lost in this manner. A new station has tested between Basildon and Chelmsford, calling itself **J-FM**. They have a very professional sound we understand, and operate on 105.6MHz. in stereo.

MERSEYSIDE. DTI activity in this area has been at a low ebb, for a change, this week. On Sunday evening, heard locally and reported to us, were..... **Slag-Off International** on 105.3MHz., **Concept Radio** on 104.3MHz., and **Chester Community Radio** on 104.8MHz. These three were in addition to the ones already listed in last week's issue. As regards Chester C.R., it appears that due to poor choice of channel, their signal was not heard at a great distance from their transmission site due to the more powerful signal emanating from the transmitter of **Radio Julie** on the same channel, but from a slightly different area.

On Easter Monday, we noted **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz., again dogged by that dreadful off channel hum which so often appears at the weekends and on Bank Holidays. Also on the air were **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz. and **Radio Julie** on 104.8MHz. A reporter mentioned 104.3MHz., and this, of course, could have been Concept, although we are not sure. Tuesday saw just Slag-Off International, although, again not logged by us.

Radio Merseywaves next surfaced on Thursday, but on Friday were not noted until rather late in the evening, when they apologised due to 'technical difficulties', and thanking Keith the Chief for getting them back on air. They duly appeared on Saturday, although a bit late on air, and again today and are still programming as we go to print. **Radio Julie** were noted by us on Thursday evening, but they too, were missing Friday for some reason. Saturday and Sunday saw their normal schedules however they did have a short spell off air for twenty minutes whilst the aerial was tightened up, as it had been 'whizzing around like a helicopter'. We failed to note **Radio Atlantis** on Friday, but on Saturday morning, Steven Bishop appeared saying it was good to be back, and they would attempt to put out programmes until 17:00, so it appears that nothing was on the air during Friday daytime. They appeared as normal on Sunday. **Radio Veronica 104** were noted in the morning with a long Caroline documentary (six album box set?), presumably meant for airing last Easter Sunday, but as they failed to come on air, the programme was put out today. The documentary finished at 14:50, and after a short break off air, regular programmes followed at 15:00 and continue.

RADIO CAROLINE. Well, there were certainly plenty of things to talk about this week, happening around the ship. Several readers have commented about the fact that the South Falls Head location was dropped from the weather reports recently, with North Falls being mentioned on occasions and speculated that the ship might have moved location, as this had been mentioned several months ago. However, the different position was not a planned move, as on the morning of 28th March (24 years to the day since Caroline commenced broadcasts), the m.v. Ross Revenge was found to be adjacent to the South Falls Buoy, approximately 1½ miles from her original position. The position had been checked earlier that day, at 04:00, and found to be correct. The anchor chain had parted at some point, and the vessel was adrift, but the position was being checked regularly, and for several days she remained in the same general area, above the South Falls sandbank. All went well until Easter Monday (4th April) when severe winds sent the ship drifting some 20 miles North, and then a distance South again to a point where we understand she ran aground on a sandbank. A gale warning at mid-day on Monday gave an expected Force 8 North Easterly for the Dover area, and the result was the previously mentioned drifting. A large vessel was acquired to pull the Ross Revenge free, but this apparently was badly damaged in the process, although the re-floating of the ship was successful. The Ross also suffered badly in this unfortunate incident. The Ross was then towed to a position at the North Falls, and this was the reason for Radio Caroline being off the air that Monday. The North Falls was referred to, in some of the weather forecasts later in the week. She stayed at this position with a temporary anchor until Saturday 10th April, when another large vessel towed her back to the South Falls Head, the original location, and a new anchor was fitted. Hopefully she will now stay at this position for a long time.

Now, on to a few programme details. Following the change in staff last Saturday, a comment was made about a 'familiar voice' to be heard later in the evening. In fact, due to the station being off the air on Saturday night, it was not until Sunday night (3rd April), at 21:00, that this voice was heard. It turned out to be someone calling himself Ad, but with no second name. He kept referring to having been on Radio Caroline in the 1970's and so we assume that it is probably Ad Roberts. He signed the station off at 01:00 on Monday morning as normal, but the station was not heard all through Bank Holiday Monday, as we already mentioned above. They were back on time at 05:00 on Tuesday, 5th April however, with Chris Kennedy back presenting the breakfast show, along with Peter Philips reading the news. Peter then followed at 09:00 with a show of his own. The shortwave service was not in operation on Tuesday, however, and indeed hasn't been heard at all this past week. The rest of the line - up for Tuesday and the rest of the week was 13:00 Richard Lee... 17:00 Paul Graham... 21:00 James Day... 01:00 Closedown. No 24 hour schedule has been noted since Easter weekend. Severe weather again affected the Southern North Sea on Thursday, and on the 07:00 news, Peter Philips could be heard with everything crashing about him. Miraculously, he managed to read the bulletin as if nothing had happened. The transmitter was also cutting out, suggesting large waves were breaking across the ship, and the insulator. Friday morning (8th April) saw the station go off the air at 11:02, following mentions a few minutes earlier that they were having a few problems below deck. Nothing more was heard on 558kHz. on Friday, or indeed, all day Saturday. However a carrier was audible early on Sunday morning, which at 09:40 gave rise to the 'Caroline' theme tune, and commencements of programmes with Richard Lee. He commented that 'technical difficulties' had been the reason for their absence. This was obviously the towing back to the old location at the South Falls Head, as he was later heard to mention that it was nice to be back at their old position. 24 hour operation was immediately announced and the South Falls Head location is once again being given, on the half hourly weather bulletins.

No news is known at present, as to when the 819kHz. service will return. A 'hello' was given during the week in the midst of the bad weather, 'to everyone working next door in the Monique studio', the presenter saying he 'didn't envy them having to work in those conditions'. So it does appear as though work is progressing well, ready for the return of the Dutch service. Now that the ship is back in its old location, it might be an idea for everyone to keep checking 819kHz., just in case of any test tones.

m.v. Communicator. Still no concrete news about the fate of this vessel has reached us over the past few weeks. The ship is still sat in the mud at the Mistley scrap yard, as it has done for several weeks and according to the magazine Now Radio, Mike Barrington and Dennis Jason are still on board. Rumours continue to circulate, some saying the ship will be scrapped, others that a buyer has been found.

m.v. Magda Maria. This project looks dead, although not quite buried. Again, no news from here, but we understand the ship is free to leave Holland if it wishes.

SHORTWAVE STATIONS. First off in this section, is a little comment about the **Radio Fax** station which appeared on 1st April, and carried on through until Monday morning. The 'Media Network' programme on Radio Nederland, is having a special feature on this station this week. So have a listen to Jonathan Marks on Thursday 17th April, to find out exactly what it is all about. Frequencies are 5955kHz. at 11:45gmt and 14:45gmt, as well as 6020kHz. at 18:45gmt.

After a very busy band on Easter Sunday, Monday (4th April) brought a great disappointment with poor reception, and no stations being logged by us. Podney managed to log two, but was unable to identify them... at 09:24 on 6240kHz, and 09:26 on 6300kHz. Luckily our colleagues in West Germany fared rather better and we can now produce a better Log for Easter Monday 4th April 1988....

6220kHz...RADIO FAX, at 06:24gmt.
6240kHz...KISS FM (via Rainbow), at 09:05gmt.
6256kHz...ANORAKS D.T.I., at 08:40gmt.
6271kHz...WCS 88 (Waves), at 09:41gmt.
6275kHz...DELTA TANGO (CQ), at 12:35gmt.
6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 12:39gmt.
6297kHz...WABC, at 07:15gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:55gmt.
6320kHz...WCS 88 (Waves), at 07:31gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 06:53gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO LUCE (via Waves), at 09:18gmt.

Log for Saturday 9th April 1988.

6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 11:57gmt.
6297kHz...WABC, at 10:54gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:33gmt.
6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:42gmt.

Log for Sunday 10th April 1988.

6202kHz...UNID.(French), at 10:55gmt.
6209kHz...R.T.R. INT., at 09:50gmt.
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 10:01gmt.
6240kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:06gmt.

6240kHz...W.L.R., at 11:12gmt.

6280kHz...4IFR, at 08:26gmt.

6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:51gmt.

6280kHz...UNID., at 10:13gmt.

6280kHz...B.B.M.S., at 10:44gmt.

6287kHz...UNID., at 11:28gmt.

6290kHz...RADIO ORION, at 10:16gmt.

6295kHz...UNID., at 08:58gmt.

6297kHz...WABC, at 10:05gmt.

6300kHz...WFRL, at 10:04gmt.

6305kHz...BRI, at 11:16gmt.

6315kHz...RADIO INDIGO, at 08:29gmt.

6315kHz...RADIO NEW WAVE, at 12:43gmt.

6315kHz...RADIO SNATANA, at 13:42gmt.

6318kHz...RADIO MARABU, at 10:33gmt.

6815kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMMERCIAL, at 10:25.

6915kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:41gmt.

7368kHz...RADIO METEOR, at 08:45gmt.

7375kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:13gmt.

7375kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 11:16gmt.

7430kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 11:00gmt.

7490kHz...STAR INT., at 08:16gmt.

Conditions today were only average, but better than Easter Monday. Logs in **BOLD** are ours, in Blackpool, others are from loggers in the Midlands, London, Bremen, Norwich and Cheshire.

The unidentified on 6280kHz. was thought to have heard mention a Radio Panda.

We understand that Radio East Coast Commercial were testing on Friday night around 18:07gmt, on 6815kHz.

Our thanks once again to everyone for their assistance this week.

STOP PRESS. As we print, we have just learned that North West Community Radio in Buncrana, Co. Donegal have moved from 1008kHz. to 1170kHz. This is due to the massive signal from Kiss FM on 1008kHz., as mentioned earlier in the Irish section.

The WEEKLY REPORT

ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 207 17th April 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

We expect 1988 to produce some quite major free radio merchandise items from time to time, and the first of these has arrived this week, in the form of a book, entitled "Radio, Radio". A review and full details of same will be found elsewhere in the report and we would just like to add that we have ample stocks right here and now, all ready for instant despatch on receipt of your order.

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday, from Blackpool. The cost of the sheet is only 20p and postal subscribers should note the following current rates..... Posted first class within the U.K., or to any E.E.C. country, including Eire, 40p..... posted second class (U.K. only), 35p..... posted to non-E.E.C. countries at full rate (Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Norway, etc.), 45p..... posted elsewhere, via air mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish, at the above appropriate rate.

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ADVERTISE IN WEEKLY REPORT for just £20.00 for a full page, £11.00 for a half, and £6.00 for a quarter. The report reaches almost 800 people weekly. People holding a current subscription may avail of a 'classified', free of charge, as long as it is only two or three lines. A 'one off' mail out to about 1000 non - subscribers (who buy merchandise but don't take WR) will take place in May. If you wish to take an advert here, please contact us now.

THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE keeps you up to date with what's going on.... ring (0795) 511118 (Sheerness) and hear a three minute message detailing major happenings. If you have news for us, ring (0253) 882017 (Blackpool) or (0795) 511119 and leave it on the Answerphone in the latter case.

"COMMUNICATE '88" will take place on Saturday 24th September 1988 in the luxurious Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in Blackpool. More details will soon be on their way to you, but in the meantime, please book any accomodation for overnight stays now, as Blackpool will be full to overcrowded on this weekend, due to the famous "Illuminations" which should not be missed. We have some brochures. At the convention, we hope to provide something for everyone into free radio, and that includes short wave, land - based, offshore, Irish and more. Lots of sales stands, features, film shows, talks, videos, etc. are planned. We hope we shall see you there, the North's first major convention.

NEW MERCHANDISE. This week we received stocks of an excellent new book by Peter Mulryan, called "Radio Radio"- The Story of Independent, Local, Community and Pirate Radio in Ireland. In excess of 160 pages, Peter has covered the development of alternative radio (as opposed to RTE), in the Irish Republic from the first transmissions in 1916. The first three chapters give an introduction as to the reasons for 'pirates' being there, and trace the early stations including the offshore operations, and those operated by Tony Boylan as far back as the mid 1940's. The important years between 1976 and 1979 are covered in depth. This was the period when the then 'Sunday only' hobby stations started to become commercially orientated. Eventually, by exploiting a loophole in the 1926 Wireless and Telegraphy Act, they survived many raids and began operating 24 hour services. The book then follows the story through to 1980/81 and the arrival of outside interests, with the setting up of bigger and more powerful stations such as Sunshine and Nova. The raids of 1983 are well documented, as well as the jamming of Sunshine and Nova by RTE. The book comes right up to date with a summary of the most recent proposed radio bill, and even the closure of Energy 103 is documented in the final chapter. Although the book is about radio in Eire, there is a definite parallel with the situation in the U.K. and other European countries, and as such, it is an extremely interesting read for everyone. "Radio Radio" is a glossy paperback, in A5 format. It is very well laid out with plenty of photographs and other illustrations. The price from us is £6.50 (cover price of £5.95 plus 55p postage) and is highly recommended.

NEW ARRIVALS. Quite a selection here this week, in fact, we are into double figures! Two of the new arrivals are 'first timers' and we wish them all the best, and give them the priveledge of being reviewed first..... **Marine Broadcasting News, Issue 1** is an A4 size magazine, with 34 sides in a neat blue binder, available monthly. Photo-copied pictures adorn front and back cover, text (all English) is by word processor and contents cover, as the title implies, the offshore operations. Stories, a quiz, the Caroline Top 50 of 1987 and Ian Goddard's now famous monthly Caroline line - up charts, can all be found within. Participation by

readers is sought at this stage and copies of issue 1 are available for £1.30, from MBN, P.O. Box 963, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 6ED..... **Activity Magazine, Issue 1**. The mag. may be new but the editor is not, as he already produces another news sheet (see below). This one is in A5 format, very neat and clear, with 28 sides including mostly short wave news, but some medium wave, London activity (the excellent 'City Scene') and a rather impressive list of U.K. (non - short wave) pirates. Reader participation again sought here. Copies are £1.00 from Activity, 3 Greenway, Harold Park, Romford, Essex RM3 0HH..... **Short Wave Newsletter, Issue 38**. Just 4 x A4 sides of 'around the SW bands' and 'news round - up' here. Copies are just 50p from Activity address immediately above..... **Now Radio, Issue 52**. 24 x A5 pages of across the board radio news. Plenty to read and costing just £1.00 from Now Radio, P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... **Radiotelex, Issue 122**. A double size issue from our colleagues in Bremen, with 8 x A5 sides of SW news, logs and QSL details, all in English. A must for SW - ers, details from RT, Postfach 103771, D - 2800, Bremen 1, West Germany..... **D.P.M. Newsletter, Issue 20**. 12 x A5 sides covering basically German FM and SW operations, along with several sides of newspaper cuttings. Totally in the German language, sample copies for 1 x IRC from DPM, Postfach 1130, D - 4154 Tonisverst 1, West Germany **Airflash, Issue 27**. This is the journal of the Community Radio Association and is a very professional news - sheet. 16 x A4 sides covering the CR side of things but including plenty of topics of interest to the pirates, who may well benefit by obtaining a copy of this relatively reasonable priced magazine (just 30p), from Airflash, 119 Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London SE1 7SJ..... **Play DX, Issue 501**. Actually, we also received Issue 5000, dated 1st April, complete with 'Laevolac Cristalli' to 'make QSL - ing easy'! Of course, this was an April Fool, we realised, before we tried the crystals which turned out to be laxative crystals! Issue 501 was back to normal and covered all the usual long distance logs and news. Mainly in English, details from Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy..... **Communication (April 1988)**. This is the monthly journal of the British DX club. A wealth of logs, news and info contained within its 28 x A5

pages. This is the magazine which lists current times and frequencies of DX programmes, and this issue is no exception. A must for serious dx - ers. Further info (a year's subs. cost just £7.50), from Dave Kenny, 10 Hemdean Hill, Caversham, Reading, Berks. RG4 7SB..... Last, but most certainly not least, **Contact, The Voice of the World DX Club, Vol. 25, Issue 4.** An evening's DX read here, with 36 x sides of coloured duplicated A4 (whatever happened to foolscap?), packed with all the latest from the DX world. Serious DX - ers will already be members, but if not, you too can be, by sending £7.00 (1st Class) or £6.50 (2nd) for a year's subs. to Arthur Ward, 17 Motspur Drive, Northampton NN2 6LY.

TAPE OFFER. Chicago is our first port of call this week for Tape 188 and a station we have not featured before **WLAK FM.** The format of WLAK is 'soft / quiet' pop music, both old and new. This, along with others from Chicago we have offered, show that it is possible to have several stations playing differing forms from the 'pop' music spectrum, to suit all tastes. The accent of this station is more on the music, and not the deejay. The recording was made on 2nd April. Back to London now, and continuing with our series of 'minority community' stations in the capital, this week, for Tape 189, we take a listen to **Sina Radio.** Sina have been on the air for many years, and broadcast to the Asian community of the Southall area of the city. This particular section of their daily programming is mainly in English, and the adverts are bi-lingual. The music however is definitely of Asian origin. Certainly a very interesting station, and a well put together programme. There are some crackles on this mono FM recording, otherwise the quality is good. Travelling North now, and for Tape 190, we go back in time to 6th January, when in Bradford, **Radio Veronica** made one of its last broadcasts following problems with lurking DTI vehicles in the area. This station covered an enormous area, with its high location and large transmitter power, and at times was also very controversial. This recording catches operator Stephen in action, 'recovering' from the New Year celebrations'. This off-air recording was made in mono, but the quality is very good. Across to Ireland now, for our final selection this week, Tape 191, which features a 'community' station within the city, **Liberty 104.** The station, despite never attaining 'super-pirate' status, has seen some quite well known names pass through its door. Today's host is Tracey Evans, an almost household name in the city, having for years been with stalwart, Radio Dublin. Tracey's show panders more to the housewife and this recording was made off-air, FM, on the morning of 25th March last. All tapes this week are C.90's and cost, as always, £2.00 each. Delays in despatch of tapes can occur from time to time, especially when a very popular recording is offered. Please bear this in mind when ordering from us. Tapes offered via our colleagues at Offshore Echo's will take considerably longer, as they come from France. We do not hold stocks of the French tape offers here. Stand by for more 'nostalgia tapes' in May.

RADIO STATION NEWS.....IRELAND. In a speech to the NACB National Conference, yesterday, the minister gave a few indications as to the future of the current proposed radio bill being discussed. It appears it will now be turned into a broadcasting bill which will also cover the new television channel and a microwave distribution system. This in itself indicates that any changes will be a long time in being implemented, as it is doubtful whether small amendments to the existing bill will cover such an important change in a television service. Although not having said that the new legalised community radio system will be delayed for another year, it has been inferred from what he has said that this will indeed be the case.

The recent good FM finally petered out on Saturday and we were left with nothing much apart from hiss, after almost two weeks of continuous good conditions. Low barometric pressure over the U.K was the cause, of course. Despite this, **Kiss FM** from Monaghan town, still managed to sneak a bit of a signal into our location, despite the rest of the band from Ireland having vanished. With a promised massive increase in power from Kiss, more summer-time 'lifts' and 'Sporadic "E"' only around the corner, plenty of good things look to be in store, we think.

DUBLIN. A rather nice piece in the Star about their joint venture with **Q 102**, can be seen in the cuttings sheet. 'Star in the Sky' is what we are talking about, and it certainly seems to be pulling the listeners. Further superb shows from Jason Maine this weekend, make us wonder why this

man is only doing two shows a week, on Saturday and Sunday. The 'Club Orange School's Out' programme can now be heard each evening on the station. This was formerly heard with John O'Hara on Energy 103. The 738kHz. transmissions get no better and on this power, the thing would be better switched off completely, allowing us to hear **Independent Radio Mayo**, although we hear that a move in site could be on the cards. On the other hand, 819kHz. is quite good now, virtually muting **Cavan Community Radio**, also on 819, here in Blackpool. The 'on the hour' advert from Sony seem to have ceased and in its place is heard the voice of Tony Allan advertising Bewley's (tea and coffee) during the day, with Extravision heard at night.

Radio Tara appears to be in the news, with the opposition Government classing it as a 'loser' already, according to the Independent of 12th April, and it's not even on the air! RTE Radio even mention a takeover in a later broadcast!

CAU FM are currently promoting a giveaway of a holiday in the USA to the 30th caller after a certain three songs are played!

North of Dublin, **Community Radio Fingal** are trying to get their act together, in preparation for a licence. They are at present, trying to raise £3,000 and in a promo currently being aired, each household is being asked to sell a card for a member's draw. The card costs 'a mere £10' they tell us!

Ballymun Community Broadcasting have been moving around of late, following them apparently causing some interference, first to listeners, then to the nearby airport. They can currently be found on 104.7MHz., in between CAU FM on 104.3 and Radio Dublin on 105.2MHz. They are awaiting delivery of a UHF link which will allow them to move into new studios.

Finally in Dublin, an FM bandscan yields all the usual mentioned operators including **Tallaght Community Radio** on 91.6MHz. only (no AM transmissions at present) and **3CR Clondalkin** on 94.8MHz.

Co. MONAGHAN. **Kiss FM** on 103.7MHz. have been beaming out their splendid signal far and wide over the British Isles on this second full week of programming. The medium wave 1008kHz. signal is still being reported heard from a great distance away. Promises of a great increase in power on the FM side have yet to be fulfilled, but we fully expect to hear the result of this in a matter of days. Power on FM has been up and down this week, with high power one day and lower power another, whilst installations are still being carried out. Line up has remained the same this week, but more more adverts have been evident. The station is certainly sounding very good indeed and well worth listening out for.

Co. LIMERICK. "Hits 954" finally closed down at midnight on 8th April, although we understand music did continue for a short while afterwards. The closure came as a shock to the staff who understood that a takeover was on the cards. Line-up on the final day read.... 07:00 Dave Shearer, 10:00 Stuart Clarke, 14:00 Ger Bradshaw, 16:00 Steve Philips, 20:00 Paul Holmes. The closure is a major set back for Limerick, as the station was the first well produced one to take to the airwaves there. This leaves **Radio Luimni** where stalwart, John the Man, is apparently in semi-retirement, in fact, according to Radio West, the station is about to close as well. They broadcast on 1125kHz. and 96.8 and 103Mhz. FM. A new station called **Radio Avalon** is reported as being yet another Radio Munster spin-off and can be found on 99.3MHz., broadcasting from studios in Catherine Street. **Radio Vera** remains the same, with just three or four adverts heard and broadcasting on 96.2MHz. **The Sound Channel** on 98.7 and **Radio Munster** on 95.4MHz. complete the city-based operations. Outside the city, **West County Radio (WCR)** from Abbeyfeale, have improved, we are told, and put in a good signal on 102MHz. **West Coast Radio** on 104.1MHz. can be heard with a good signal in the city from their studios in Ennis, Co. Clare. When this report was written, last Monday, 11th, the two "Hits" transmitters were still alive but with just silent carriers (954kHz. and 97.6MHz.).

Co. GALWAY. We have noticed Galway District Radio (GDR)from Loughrea, missing on 1404kHz. of late and have learned this morning from reports on the **Radio West** free radio show, that not only have they closed down (7th April), but so too have Kandy Radio in Ballinasloe (12th April). The usual lack of money is blamed. **Coast 103** are now on 1566kHz. full time, with an improved signal, and have been heard as far away as Scotland.



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LAND-BASED STATIONS.

BELFAST. The Irish language station on 102.1MHz., continues to operate daily to the city. Actual programming is only apparent for about four hours per day, although the carrier is often left on. The name of the station is believed to be **Radio Failte**.

NOTTINGHAM. **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.15) have been heard continuously since the evening of 8th April. The audio quality tends to vary on the station, as sometimes the speech is very muffled, and other times very clear, but the music is always clean. In keeping with most of the country's soul / reggae stations, where the deejays appear each week at local clubs, in the case of Heatwave 105, it is every Monday night at the Marcus Garvey Centre in Nottingham.

LONDON. Due to delays in the postal system, Sid's report did not arrive until Monday, and so we have a bumper London section this week, covering from Good Friday until this past weekend.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

1st - 4th April 1988.

This weekend touched down on 30 stations, 9 in stereo.

New this week are :- London Irish Community Radio (89.55 - stereo), **JWT** (104.05) and **Classic FM** (105.50).

Missing / Not Heard :- Ram Jam Radio, P.R.S., Sangam, Roots FM, K-Jazz, Girls FM, T.K.O., Raiders FM, Hits FM and SW Sound.

Returned :- **Groove FM** (89.75) and **Strong Island** (92.35).

A major new 'Privateer' burst onto the scene with voices that sounded as though they have spent a life being washed by the waters of the Liffey. **London Irish Community Radio** (89.55 - stereo) have come to town, with a blend of 'traditional Irish, country and western, and the best of middle-of-the road music'. An extremely strong signal, probably in the 500/700 watt class, puts it up with the leaders. Although the stereo beacon was triggered, there is speculation as to whether they actually are in stereo, or just transmitting a 19kHz tone to trigger the beacon, to give the impression of stereo, a technique pioneered by **LWR** in their early days. With a 24 hour schedule, live programming is limited to daytime at the present. Overnight is sustained by back-to-back tape loops of non-stop country and western, with some of the most appalling maudling sentimental slush ever pressed into vinyl. Red Sovine's No. 4 charter of 1981, "Teddy Bear", is mild by comparison. Inevitably, the initials (LIC - R) will lead it to be known as 'liquour', still, non-stop C & W will add variety to the overcrowded airwaves of London Town. Prior to LIC-R, the only regular programme aimed at a specific Irish audience, was a Sunday lunchtime slot on Brent 'reggae rocker' **JBC** (104.3 - stereo), who are on the borders of London's 'Little Dublin' of Willesden.

Whatever happened to love, peace and good music? Visions of Al Capone bully-boy tactics and the St. Valentine's Day Massacre come to town amid allegations of threats of physical violence and reprisals against much loved 'Golden Groover', **Hits FM** (105.5), who were not able to get on the air for their popular Saturday outing. Hits have only just decided to carry on, after suffering continually at the hands of vandals

and thieves, now they face the problem of possible personal violence. Also involved, were Fulham micro-popper **SW Sound** (105.6 - stereo) who missed out on both Friday and Sunday for allegedly similar reasons. Despite this, the black music station concerned are an obviously well planned and well organised operation, as the sound quality is good, and a number of varied commercials and power plays have been heard already. The inference from this is that they intended to get on air, no matter what the cost, as a large amount of money is at stake, and the alleged heavy handed tactics are, in their eyes, justified.

Cutting in over the top of the Reigate Hill transmitter of **BBC Radio Sussex** (104.00) on Friday night, was heard **JWT** (104.05), a soul / hip-hop station which is new to London. The DJ line-up given out, certainly made it a 24 hour operation for the weekend, but no indication as to further aspirations was given. The line-up also suggested a shortage of presenters, as some of them were doubling up for the same day. This over ambitious stretching of resources may account for them not being heard after early Sunday morning.

This week's dirty spot is again around the 103MHz. mark. **WNK** (102.85), the returned and relocated **Galaxy Radio** (103.05) have now been joined by an unidentified station, also on 103.05. Coming from the Wandsworth / Fulham area of SW London, they have been putting out a low power test signal since at least Good Friday, consisting of a two hour tape loop. The studio / transmitter has obviously been unattended, as the transmission has deteriorated, as the tape deck got dirtier, and the tape showed signs of excessive wow and flutter by late on Bank Holiday Monday evening. This is all mixed in with 3 ILR out-of-towners on 102.7, 102.9, and 103.1. In some places, listening to any one of them is impossible.

North London soul and reggae mixers, **Strong Island** (92.35) are back to try again after their abortive false start in mid-March. The down time has been used to beef up the signal, and finish off the studio. The first transmissions had suffered from poorly installed equipment and lack of weather-proofing to the studio. Being close to **LWR** (currently 92.15) they are suffering from the inevitable splashover.

Someone pulled the plug on **LWR** (92.15), just before 8pm on Saturday evening. Whether it was at their West End studio or somewhere else along the line, isn't known. Various hums and clicks were heard before the station went dead, and all that remained was a noisy carrier, which splattered over into the neighbouring **Strong Island** (92.35). On Sunday morning, a strong stereo carrier was noted, but programming, when it resumed later in the day was in mono.

Sunday also saw the return of low power South East London weekend soulsters, **Groove FM** (89.75) who have been missing since early February. They are somewhat overshadowed by the sidesplash from LIC-R on 89.55, but ran on to the end of the Bank Holiday.

Fresh FM (103.4) having lost the distortion which made them unlistenable last weekend, have this Saturday lost their transmitter. They came back in test mode, just after 1:30pm on Monday, and brought the distortion back with them. They did manage to get it sorted out by the evening, and have a stable signal.

Also missing for a short time were North London reggae rockers, **City Radio**, who had dropped down to 94.4 during the week, only to disappear on Friday afternoon. They were back for Saturday morning in full blown stereo, up a couple of notches on 94.6MHz. Sunday saw them suffering slightly from the sidesplash of current South London, Sunday only soulsters, **Starpoint** (94.45 - stereo) who have gained a stereo encoder during the week, for the first time since last August.

Playback FM (93.2), Watford's soul micro, is growing despite action from the 'Soul Destroyers'. They have now transmuted from evening part timers into a 24 hour weekender. Power has been up-rated, and now gets well into North and West London, despite sidesplash from **Solar 93** (93.0 - stereo). Programming has now been widened to cover the whole black music spectrum.

Saturday evening rockers **London Rock** (89.5) returned to their slot despite the over powering presence of LIC-R (89.55 - stereo). Surprise surprise, and last week's down time was evidently put to good use. They have finally got rid of that terrible old transmitter with no bass, that they have been using for the past year, and replaced it with a brand spanking new model with more power and a full frequency range. Now the music can be appreciated.

Rock FM (94.25) also gave us an Easter treat, when they went album tracking on their Saturday evening rig testing

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in living stereo. Strangely, Sunday's full outing by the 'magnificent Seven' was back in mono.

With a major presence from almost a full line-up of 'Privateer Radio' over the Bank Holiday weekend, the DoTI people, fresh from a weekend paddling, and looking out to sea at Southend, will no doubt, mobilise the full strength of the 'reggae-cide squads', 'soul destroyers' and the 'foreign language unit', to cull the ranks in the coming week. How many will be standing at the end of the week? All will be revealed next time.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

8th - 12th April 1988.

This weekend, touched down on 33 stations of which 9 were in stereo (including LIC-R).

Missing / Not Heard :- L.G.R., Faze 1, Solar 93, Roots FM, Playback FM, K-Jazz, Girls FM, Raiders FM, SW Sound and Classic FM.

Returned :- ICE and P.R.S.

With the DTI at number 73 in this weeks charts with 'Keep This Frequency Clear', it was understandable why the anticipated DoTI People reaction to the 'Easter Weekend Privateer Jamboree' has been a total non-event. As a result of the minimal action since the major purges a week or two back, the number of on-air stations has been growing, as has the number of stations creeping back into stereo. Previous powerhouse stereo leaders, Time, Fresh and LWR, have yet to press the stereo button. It is possible they consider the additional expense of stereo encoders unwarranted at this time.

London Rock have joined the 'Powerhouse Group', with the help of a considerable improvement in engineering and clarity of signal, made possible by their move to 88.8MHz., for their weekly Saturday evening soiree. This spot was last occupied by the non-commercial CDR up until the end of January. CDR had previously announced that they were broadcasting experimentally until the end of March this year. With the deadline now passed, it would seem that they have decided against extending the experiment. CDR had been set up to extend the range of black community radio, beyond the confines of black urban music. It was partially successful, with a daily programme on black heritage, and it certainly catered for more than soul and reggae fans, with regular helpings of rock music and even rock and roll at times. At London Rock, the music policy seems to be getting softer, with a swing away from thrash metal to a more middle-of-the-road approach.

South London 'Golden Groovers' Hits FM (105.5) were heard in a very much muted form when they returned early on Saturday evening, with what was claimed to be a stereo test. 'Technical problems' were blamed for the daytime non-appearance.

Rock FM (94.25) were late with their setting-up tests on the same day, and weren't heard until nearly 8:30pm. Between the breaks in transmission could be heard what

sounded like Mel and Kim! Mind you, they have been known to close down with Boney M's "Gotta Go Home". Still, all appeared as normal on Saturday evening, when even some early Chuck Berry was heard.

London Irish Community Radio (LIC-R)(89.55 - stereo), the country and Irish seven dayer, are still blasting through on all eight cylinders, in what is still believed to be 'quasi-stereo'. (Has anyone actually heard true stereo?) [Ed. LIC-R is definately broadcasting in stereo, but some of the old records played, probably makes it sound only in mono.] They seem to be even more powerful this week, more or less blocking South East London low power weekend soulsters, Groove FM (89.75). Although, it is possible that Groove have dropped down to 89.65, it is difficult to tell without sitting outside their transmitter site.

Major leaguers TKO (102.35

- stereo) turned up during the week, after a lengthy absence, in lower power than previously noted, indicating a major loss of equipment. Thankfully they kept the compressors set to a reasonable level and maintained the quality expected of them. They went out Sunday, but returned the following day, with an increase in power to bring them back to where they were before. Also going out Sunday were Lambeth's heavy duty rockers R-T-R (90.25), who returned later on 90.4 with a well worn tape, before coming back properly the following day on 90.2.

Wayne Turner, the man who has launched LWR (92.10) more times than Helen launched ships, was at the helm again on Sunday evening, when LWR were in the final phases of setting up for their return. As the LWR techs made the final adjustments and tests, the fastest voice in radio was calling for reception reports. Power seemed to be lower than usual, but nevertheless reports were soon flooding in thick and fast.

West London soul-to-reggae outfit, ICE FM (90.50 - stereo), who were heard intermittently in February on 102.7ish, have vacated that overcrowded and noisy area to take over the slot recently occupied by P.R.S. The West London base means that, like P.R.S. before them, they are obliterated in the South and East of the town by Brixton 'powerhouses' Rock to Rock (90.25) and Passion Radio (90.70). P.R.S. who were disillusioned with this slot, have been trying various other slots themselves, and in the early hours of Monday morning, turned up on the comparatively clear 91.90 spot, where they are now coming through loud and clear. The remaining Brixton 'powerhouse', Faze 1 (90.95) went out on Friday morning, and was not heard at all over the entire weekend. ICE, for their part, seem to have taken a leaf from long weekend soulsters, Studio FM's (92.7) book of instructions, with the overnight relay of another station. Where Studio (in their Studio 1 days), would occasionally relay stations like LBC or Radio 2, ICE have chosen to use the 'boyos' from LIC-FM, as their overnight sustaining service. This is probably because LIC-R have just back-to-back country and western music, with no station ID's on their overnight tapes. With LIC-R out on Sunday night, they had to put on their own tapes rather than relay someone else.

Also on the move, are South London's Starpoint, who have abandoned the 94.4 slot, at least for the moment, and taken over 93.20 for their Sunday, all-day soul to jazz outing. The length of time they are able to sit on this slot will obviously depend on the intentions of LWR associates, Roots FM returning to full time broadcasting. Roots are not the fastest of returners. Apart from the surprise Starpoint move, the 93 area has been very quiet this weekend, and with Solar 93 (92.95 - stereo) off for whatever reason, it was easy to establish that both Watford's Playback (93.2 - weekends), and Luton's Jive FM (92.95) were not around. The only out-of-towners in evidence, were Essex weekend funksters Stomp FM (105.4 - stereo), who lived up to their

name and came stomping in, with good stereo, down the Eastern side of London, and clear out to the Kent / Surrey borders, over most of the weekend. Despite this, they were barely audible in the West End.

The rough and worn tape loop heard in low power on 103.05, which was giving problems to **Galaxy Radio** (103.05) had gone by this weekend, to be replaced by a powerful scan stopping carrier. Despite waiting with interest to see what would turn up, nothing was heard by Monday evening, so it seems as though it will be next week before the answer comes through.

Finally, **Fresh FM** (103.4) have been having more problems with their transmitter, as it fell down the long slope into inaudibility on Sunday night / Monday morning. They had corrected, presumably by putting in a replacement transmitter, as when checked on Monday evening, they were back with a good signal, but a bit down in frequency to 103.25MHz.

LONDON UP-DATE. Just one new station has been reported this week, it being the return of CD 10/24, who several months ago, hired the transmitter of TKO for Saturday transmissions. This time they are using their own transmitter, and calling themselves **CD 93**. They are also leasing it to **Starpoint FM** (93.2) on a Sunday. **CD 93** is a Saturday only operation, and the format is more pop orientated. Once again the DTI have been out, with both **Fresh FM** (103.35) and **Time Radio** (103.8) being raided early in the week. Both have since returned. We hear that in the process of raiding **Time Radio**, a one hundred foot high aerial was cut by the DTI, and it came crashing down onto adjacent property, with resultant damage. We wonder who will be responsible for such damage? Both Fresh and Time lost a studio and transmitter. At the time of writing on Saturday afternoon, **TKO** (102.35) and **LWR** (92.1) were conspicuous by their absence, although LWR were apparently not touched. **KISS FM** (94.0) who had been trouble free of late, were raided on Saturday afternoon, along with **Studio FM** (92.7) ts.

Following the recent arrival of **London Irish Community Radio** on 89.5MHz., today, **London Rock** changed frequency down to 88.7MHz., which should enable them to get out a bit further than last week. **Classic FM** have also moved frequency up to 105.8MHz. (announcing 105.7). Despite the move by **Classic FM**, **Hits FM** (105.5) were not heard at all this weekend, and neither was **Raiders FM** (105.2).

THE SOUTH COAST. On Easter Sunday, **A.B.C. Radio** (105.3) was on air with a special live broadcast, starting at 7pm. The transmission went very well, with many calls to the station for the first 4½ hours. Then suddenly at 11:30pm, the DTI turned up outside the studio, obviously after tracking down the link frequency, which was coming from the studio. An announcement was made telling of the problems and the link was then switched off. The DTI then drove off, and even left the 105.3MHz. transmitter which was then just putting out white noise. A.B.C. staff then travelled to the site, and recovered all the gear, so the station lives on to fight another day. A.B.C. is now expected to start up weekly broadcasts from 10th April. Car stickers and an information sheet are available free of charge from :- A.B.C., 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 7RT.

ABC RADIO

Your Free Radio Station

105.3 FM, SUNDAYS AT 7 pm

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE and DERBYSHIRE. This time we start off in Hull, where **Radio Takoradi** (105) haven't been heard for some weeks now. In fact, we understand that they were raided by the DTI during early March, and are currently getting ready for a comeback. They were to have made some tests last Saturday, and come on with full programmes yesterday. **W.L.N.G.** (104.9) were off the air on Tuesday (12th April) due to technical problems. They returned as normal on Thursday (14th) with their normal 2 hour broadcast between 20:30 and 22:30.

Action in Leeds has been a little thin on the ground this week. However we have a report of a **Radio Veronica East** being heard on 105.7MHz., on Sunday 10th April, at around

23:10. The signal then suddenly disappeared, and nothing more is known about this. Reports in the **Yorkshire Evening Post** for last Saturday (9th), indicate that a court case took place that week, with a member of ABC Radio being fined. We have yet to see this, but hope that someone might forward us a copy at some stage. We seem to get plenty of reports about raids, but of all the raids taking place, very few seem to get publicised when they eventually end up in court. **ABC FM** have been off during the week, but were heard once again from Thursday night onwards, on 105.2MHz. **Music City radio** (90.3) operated yesterday afternoon, but had gone by the evening. **Peoples FM** (91.8) have not been on at all this weekend, leaving just ABC as an alternative. It appears that the DTI could well have been active in this area over the past few days. **Peoples FM** seem to have taken over from **New Horizon FM**, as plenty of 'Bill Mitchell' type voice-overs have been heard promoting this name.

Scooter Jones programmed with his usual mixture of chart music, oldies and album tracks during the transmissions of **Rebel Radio** (105.4) last Monday, 11th April. Broadcast time was between 20:00 and 22:00.

North Midlands Radio (105.5) were heard again last Sunday from 20:30 until 22:00 closedown. Our correspondent mentioned that the signal was weaker than last time. **Steve St. John** was the presenter. When Steve signed off, he mentioned that **NMR** had been on since 20:00.

MERSEYSIDE. Sad news reached us this week, of the final closedown of **Stortown Community Radio**. As most readers will know, this station made a return to the air a couple of months ago with Sunday only broadcasts on 1026kHz. After only four Sundays, the DTI raided the site and removed the equipment. Due to various reasons, not least, difficulty in finding suitable transmission sites, the operators have decided to call it a day. **S.C.R.** began broadcasting several years ago on 1296kHz, and became one of the most consistent and long running stations on Merseyside. They later moved to 1026kHz., as at the time, the BBC began operating 'experimental community radio stations' in the Greater Manchester area on **S.C.R.**'s channel of 1296kHz. However you can't keep a good station down, and no doubt the voices of the staff will be heard on other stations in future.

The diversity of the programming on **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) is certainly making them a very entertaining station to listen to these days. We wonder whether this is as a result of the phone-in many weeks ago, when listeners were asked to give their opinions on the format. It's nice to see that the rock programme has been kept on the air during the daytime, with **Mark Wright** yesterday playing some fine American rock. This was followed by the 'crazy programme' which featured some extremely good 'take offs', amongst other funnies. The two morning shows, with **Kevin Jordan** and **Mark Palmer** are also interesting to listen to, with all their little snippets of information and trivia quizzes. Sunday lunchtime has always been the time for the country programme. **Radio Julie** also have a similar show at this time, and these much be amongst the only country programmes to be broadcast in Britain.

Radio Julie were not monitored here until Saturday afternoon, when they were once again noted putting out a good signal on 104.85MHz. Apparently, they had been delayed with their regular weekend broadcasts due to transmitter problems. **Andy Davis** was on the air until 14:00 with a shorter programme than normal, due to him sorting out the problems. He was followed by **Tony Scott** with the first full show of the weekend. Also heard on Saturday were **Radio Merseywaves** on 1242kHz. and **Radio Atlantis** on 1197kHz.

Sunday saw all the above three stations, once again and these were joined at 15:00 by **Veronica 104**.

MANCHESTER. First off last Sunday, a new station on 105.3MHz. conducted a test transmission under the name of **Illegal Radio Station (IRS)**. They have not been monitored since. **IBC** were also heard on 104.4MHz., as were **Sunshine Radio** on 92.1MHz. **Outlook 963** was also noted last Sunday, in the evening, but has not been heard since. This weekend, **WBLS** (102.4) were noted back on the air, as was what presumed to be the old **ICR** with a new name of **Laser 10/35**, on 103.5MHz. What was thought to be **Sunshine Radio** (92.1) were also monitored in South Manchester with one of their regular transmissions. Continuous music only, was heard, and the audio quality was reported to be excellent.

ESSEX. **Canvey Radio** (93.1) were raided by the DTI at around 15:00 this afternoon. A 70 watt transmitter, two

personnel stereos, and several cassettes were all taken. Luckily no-one was caught in the raid. **Inner City Radio** (105.6) were on today to the west Hanningfield area. They did a broadcast as **J-FM** on April 1st, which was an April Fool. **Stomp FM** who blasted out last week, have not been heard at all this weekend.

THE MIDLANDS. Nothing out of the ordinary has been logged in this area. Both **P.C.R.L. Radio** (103.5) and **Enterprise FM** (92.0) seem to have had a trouble free week. **Powerhouse Radio** (105.1) were on the air each evening, as were **Electro Radio** (95.0), except for Thursday night. No Asian stations have been monitored at all, with the only other transmission this week being from the Sunday only **Soul City Radio** (103.8).

OFFSHORE RADIO..... THE VOICE OF PEACE. The station is still suffering from breakdowns with both transmitters. Work continues to get the AM back to normal, although as regards the FM, the new transmitter is awaited and should be on its way from New York. It is expected that the ship will take delivery of the item in Ashdod, but it will not be installed until dry-docked in Haifa some time in the middle of May, when painting and cleaning will also be carried out. The line-up for Thursday 7th April reads..... 00:00 Michael O'Sullivan, 03:00 Steve Cromby, 06:00 Kenny Page, 09:00 Ian Hudson, 13:00 Martin Murphy, 16:00 Kenny Page, 18:00 Michael O'Sullivan, 19:30 Steve Cromby, 22:00 Ian Hudson. John McDonald is on shore leave and Paul Fraser has now completed his stint. Rumours suggest Steve Richards may take his place, as we believe he is possibly staying in Tel Aviv at this time. Abie's phone - in show is temporarily missing due to his being away on vacation in Columbia and Miami (his wife is from Columbia).

RADIO CAROLINE. This week has given varied fortunes for the station. They seem to have lost Peter Philips back to land after only two weeks, and as such the staff left on board were having to double up on shifts. It appears that Peter didn't intend to stay out there for long, and probably the problems of the past two weeks, didn't help his decision to stay on any longer. He is still working for the station on land however. Following his departure, the line-up became... 05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 James Day... 13:00 Richard Lee... 17:00 Paul Graham... 21:00 Richard Lee... 23:00 Paul Graham... 01:00 Closedown. Friday morning (15th) saw just a carrier on at around 06:30, but this was then switched off. We believe that continuous music was then played from 12:30 until 13:00, when Richard Lee commenced his programme, mentioning that essential maintenance had been carried out. Paul Graham took over at 17:00, and James Day returned at 21:00, possibly programming right through until 05:00. The station went off again on Sunday afternoon at 15:23, promising to be back in a few minutes, but in fact it was 16:10 before the Fortunes was played. Even then, they seemed to be having problems, as the power was up and down, but it then stabilised.

The shortwave service returned on Monday, on a new frequency of 6215kHz. However several SSB transmissions were noted on this frequency, suggesting that it is still in use by ship - shore operators. (In a piece we published several weeks ago, Barry Collins mentioned that 6215.5 was a secondary distress channel). The signal on the new frequency was good, and lasted much better in the evenings than 6210kHz. It was also clearer in the mornings, being that much further away from HCJB who broadcast on 6205kHz. at that time. The growling was still evident on 6215kHz. We thought that this might have been due to a synthesiser being used rather than a crystal, to control the frequency. Some of the stations in Ireland using these type of oscillators, suffer from a similar problem at night, if the unit is faulty. The beauty about them of course, is that the required frequency can be just dialled in. The shortwave was missing on Thursday 12th (at least we couldn't hear it), but appeared later in the evening on another channel of 6205kHz. The whole station was off early on Friday morning (15th), and although the 558kHz transmissions returned at around 12:30, the shortwave was not noted here until later in the evening, on 6205kHz. What problems will be encountered with HCJB during the breakfast show could only be guessed. In fact, we found out first thing on Saturday morning, as Caroline was still on 6205kHz. Both HCJB and Radio Caroline were the same strength here in Blackpool, and as such were both audible together, making listening to Caroline uncomfortable, until shortly after 08:00. The interesting thing of note here, was that despite the two being on together (both were exactly on channel - no heterodyne), there was no sign of the growling,

so where it was emanating from on 6210 and 6215kHz, is a mystery - perhaps it was a jammer after all!

An interesting note came in this week regarding the type of aerial mast that is expected to be used for 819kHz. It appears that they have been used in the U.K., but unsuccessfully, due to mechanical breakdown of the base of the system. This was a free standing 'whip' aerial. Whether the proposed one on the Ross Revenge is going to be guyed is not known, but if the system failed on land, then severe problems are bound to occur at sea. Efficiency at low frequencies is also understood to be rather low.

* * * * *

SHORT WAVE STATIONS. As everyone may be aware, Radio East Coast Commercial ran a free radio competition during the February and March broadcasts over 6310kHz. The prize for the winner was a copy of WRTH 1988, who was Bradley Allen of Whitstable in Kent. The two runners-up, who both receive a cassette recording of a former popular SW free radio station, are Stuart Allen of Halifax and Albert Ford of Devon. The questions and answers were.... 1. Which current SW FR station often calls itself the big 'O'.... Answer, Radio Orion. 2. Name the former Caroline SW D.J. who made a special programme for BRI's Christmas/ New Year broadcasts.... Answer, Freddie Archer. 3. Rebel Radio Network was aired under the call - signs Osaka 1 and Osaka 2. What were the names of the two imaginary ships?... Answer, Osaka 1 came from the m.v. Ocean Myth. Osaka 2 came from the m.v. Fuji Oil.

The Radio Fax station mentioned last week, was apparently not an April Fool, according to 'Media Network'. The station was operating with 230 watts. The operators were a group who had applied to run a technical radio station two years ago, but no response had yet been given by the authorities. Basically, this was a broadcast to test the response of such a service.

Log for Sunday 17th April 1988.

6205kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 07:55gmt.
6209kHz...R.T.R., at 09:50gmt.
6224kHz...RADIO ATLANTIQUE 2000 INT., at 08:39.
6224kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 08:45gmt.
6233kHz...FREESOUND RADIO, at 11:33gmt.
6233kHz...SUD WEST RADIO, at 08:50gmt.
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW, at 10:20gmt.
6240kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:37gmt.
6240kHz...W.L.R., at 11:28gmt.
6250kHz...ALTERNATIVE VATICAN RADIO, at 11:30.
6257kHz...RTR INTERNATIONAL, at 10:15gmt.
6262kHz...P.R.S. HOLLAND, at 08:00gmt.
6265kHz...E.M.R., at 09:00gmt.
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 09:30gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:43gmt.
6280kHz...RADIO PANDORA INT., at 10:20gmt.
6285kHz...RADIO APOLLO INT., at 08:45gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:47gmt.
6305kHz...RIVERSIDE RADIO INT., at 08:02gmt.
6313kHz...UNID., at 11:30gmt.
6318kHz...W.L.R., at 09:05gmt.
6320kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 07:50gmt
6814kHz...UNID., at 13:10gmt
6815kHz...RADIO EAST COAST COMM., at 13:10gmt.
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:10gmt.
7374kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 09:45gmt.
7375kHz...UNID., at 08:30gmt.
7429kHz...RADIO SCORPIO, at 09:55gmt.
7446kHz...RADIO ATLANTIQUE 2000 INT., at 08:40.

* * * * *

Conditions today were quite good, but there didn't seem to be as many stations to hear as usual, at least for us. Thanks to loggers in the Midlands, Hampshire, London, Yorkshire and Cheshire. The BOLD logs are ours in Blackpool.

Following the start up of Radio East Coast Commercial programmes today, on 6815kHz., jamming of their signal with continuous music occurred for the duration of the transmissions. This seemed to be done on purpose, as no one else normally uses this frequency. The two transmitters were slightly off causing an annoying heterodyne. RECC switched off their transmitter briefly to confirm that there was another station there.

* * * * *

We must apologise for the fact that, despite extra pages, an enormous amount of text has been held over until next week. This includes some small adverts also. Thanks to everyone for their contributions this week.

The WEEKLY REPORT ANORAKS

The First with the News in Print

No. 208..... 24th April 1988.

P.O. Box 539, BLACKPOOL FY1 4RE, England...Price 20p.

All talk of legislation on both sides of the Irish Sea takes second place this week, as 'broadcasting and receiving ears and eyes' focus fairly and squarely on Chris Cary's latest venture, Radio Nova International, due to commence broadcasting on 1st May (next Sunday). Press releases are now forthcoming from the company and 'latest news' will be found within this report. Provided he comes on air as promised, which we are sure he will, he appears to have pipped competitors to the post, gathering together numerous internationally known radio stars on the way. Read all about it further on, but using the words of the Irish Sunday World newspaper, 'The idea will be that the futuristic radio station will beam its signal down to cable company satellite dishes and will then be piped into subscriber's homes - your ordinary transistor radio won't pick it up'. Dublin Cablelink Company are understood to be 'interested', so it looks like Dubliners might be having Nova back after all. Will any of our readers be able to receive Nova direct?

WEEKLY REPORT & CUTTINGS is produced, printed and posted out each Sunday from Blackpool. The sheet costs 20p and with postage etc., the following subscription rates are current..... First Class (U.K.), plus E.E.C. countries, including Eire, 40p..... Second Class (U.K. only), 35p..... Non - E.E.C. countries (Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, Finland, etc.), 45p..... Elsewhere, via Air Mail, 55p. You may subscribe for as many weeks as you wish at the above appropriate rate.

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THE ANORAKS U.K. INFO - LINE is available all day, everyday, night-time too, on Sheerness (0795) 511118. Messages or news for us can be phoned in on Blackpool (0253) 882017 or Sheerness (0795) 511119. The latter being an Answerphone service.

"COMMUNICATE '88": Details of the North's very own free radio convention will soon be forthcoming. The occasion will be held on Saturday 24th September in the Spanish Hall of the Winter Gardens Conference Centre in central Blackpool. Early booking of accomodation is urged, as this is the busy 'Illuminations' period. We have some hotel brochures at hand, please request same if required.

NEW MERCHANDISE: We must apologise to a great number of people who ordered records from our 'Great Spring Record Sale' sheet, enclosed within last week's report, and who were disappointed to find that we had already sold out. The response was terrific and as we stated on the sheet, we only had a few of each, and in some cases, only one copy. Further offers will be made from time to time, as they become available, so watch this space. In the meantime, the only remaining records on the sheet are numbers... 2, 5, 7, 15, 19, 20, 23, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61 and 63. It might be an idea to telephone (0253) 882017 to check before sending any money, or at least indicate 'refund' or 'keep on credit' on the sheet, in the event of us being sold out. Sales of the Peter Mulryan book, 'RADIO, Radio' are rather healthy, we must say, as newspaper reviewers give it a good write up. The book is about pirate radio in Ireland and costs a cover price of £5.95, plus 55p postage, making a total of £6.50. We have ample stocks right here. Finally in this section, following brisk sales of back copies of **Offshore Echo's**, only the following English language issues are now available.... 45, 46, 49, 56, 57 and 62 to 70 inclusive. If you are not already a subscriber, get yourself a copy now of Europe's leading free radio magazine... price, just £1.90. (For guidance, Issue 45 is dated December 1982, Issue 70, March 1988).

NEW ARRIVALS: Definitely a bit thin, this week, just two.... the weekly **Now Radio**, Issue 53 with 24 x A5 pages fronted by a picture of a relieved Casey Kasem shaking the hand of Norm Pattiz, after signing an agreement worth \$15mn allowing him to continue with his 'long distance dedications'! Across the board radio news within, details being available from P.O. Box 45, Kettering, Northants. NN16 0NW..... and, **PLAY - DX**, Issue 502, 6 x A4 sides of long distance logs and international news, in English, Italian and Spanish. Details: Dario Monferini, via Davanzati 8, 20158 Milano, Italy.

TAPE OFFER. Once again we start off in Chicago for our first recording this week, with one of the 'CHR' stations in the city, **Q-101**, featured as Tape 192. Breakfast with Robert Murphy is our choice this time. Robert hosts a 'zoo' type programme, and is probably as famous in Chicago, as Scott Shannon is for his 'Z - Morning Zoo' in New York. This particular show was broadcast live from a railway station in the city, although there were not many travellers to greet them at 7am in the morning! Yes, it's London again for

Tape 193, but this time we give a listen to one of the weekend only stations, **London Rock Radio**. As suggested by its title, the station specialises in rock music, and, being a 'hobby' station, does not interrupt with adverts, making it sound more like one of the 'free radio' stations of the seventies. Their new frequency of 88.7MHz. seems to be working wonders for them, and they are now getting out better than ever. We stop in Yorkshire for Tape 194, and one of the regulars in the county, **Rebel Radio**. Scooter Jones, as always, hosts this programme, and fills it with a mixture of oldies and chat. Ireland is our final call this time, as we travel way down to County Kerry, and take a listen to **Kingdom 102** who broadcast from Killarney. This station is a relative newcomer, but has developed into a well presented community station playing both country and pop music. Plenty of adverts can be heard, and the audio quality of the station, recorded just last Monday, is excellent. As usual, all recordings are 90 minutes in length, off air (FM), and cost just £2.00 each.

NOSTALGIA TAPE OFFERS: Back earlier than we thought, as re-organisation in our studios storms ahead of schedule. This tape should have gone out last week but one, as it was the last week in March 1986, when **Zoom 103** was active from Dublin, having taken over from Nova, albeit briefly. Our offer, No. SP5, is a C.90 and features Tony McKenzie on one side, and Richard Jackson on the other. Rather an unusual one now from America, as it was six years ago this week, since **WABC AM** changed format from Top 40 to news. Everybody remembers this station as being the leader in American Top 40 radio in the '60's and '70's. This particular recording was made a week before the changeover, the last week in April 1982. It is Tape No. SP6 and is also a C.90 cassette.

GENERAL: 'Historian', Stuart tells us that last Wednesday (20th April) it was a year since **Laser Hot Hits 576** closed down and on Friday (22nd) it was two years since **Energy 103** began testing on 738kHz. and 103.1MHz.

RADIO STATION NEWS...IRELAND. Its nice to know that Irish expatriates in London can now listen to real Irish radio, via the new pirate station 'London Irish Community Radio'. We listened to a tape and it really is just like a 'home' station. Anybody visiting or living in Blackpool, or anywhere on the west coast, will find their radios full of Ireland to such an extent that Radio 1 pales into insignificance! We love it, the music of a unique country. Where else in Britain could you flick the dial from a super-pirate playing 'Hot Hits', to a country station where you hear an advert for 'O'Rourke's

dead and dying animals collection service? You can here!

Co. DUBLIN. OK, so we've neglected the capital, but David lives there and he has sent us a few observations he has made this past few days.... He starts off by asking why we don't mention RCR, although he is not sure what it stands for, or its correct frequency, but thinks it is about 98.0MHz. We think it is likely to be Ranelagh Community Radio. David says they rarely announce, or ID, although he noted 'RCR on 98 - Keep it here'. Gaps between records and wrong speeds aren't uncommon he tells us, although quality is very good. Listening to state radio, he heard a Tony Allan promo on RTE for Michael McNamara on '2FM' and also found John Kenny doing RTE Sport, mainly news and results, on the radio. We were only wondering about John last week, as we had not heard from him for a long time. He was on numerous Dublin pirates, including the Big 'D', then South Coast Radio and finally Q 102, from where he just vanished about 18 months ago. Finally David tuned into Sunshine 101 and tells us that they were mentioning the Sunshine Survey which said how many thousand listeners they had for various shows and times. The excellent 'Be-Bop-Gold', as usual, attracted a vast number each Sunday, 9:00 till 15:00. We checked out Q 102 and found them telling us that the very popular Abrakebabra / Q 102 car sticker competition was in its final week. This is the second run for this successful competition, , which gives away £100 per day to a pair a lucky car drivers or owners. A letter in during the week asked if Heartbeat FM was still on air. We believe it is, although we cannot receive it on 95.5 due to local BBC activity there... maybe someone can check it out for us, in Dublin. Another ex - pirate surfaces.... Aidan Cooney, he of Nova sport on Saturday afternoons, years ago, can now be heard on T.T.T.R Radio, doing the very same, evenings and weekends. And finally in Dublin, or rather in Liverpool, who did we hear on ILR, City, this morning? Ex Nova, Zoom and Energy main man, Tony McKenzie. Tony was originally Tony James of Caroline from the late 1984 era, until he trekked across to Dublin at the invitation of Chris Cary. We thought he may appear on the new Satellite Nova, but apparently not so, it appears.

Co. LOUTH. Boyneside Radio continues to have the strongest AM signal into the U.K., on 1305kHz. Promos asking for adverts for the new Navan-based service have been noted. The number to call is Navan (046) 22566. This relay opts out for several hours per day with local programmes. Heady Eddie's afternoon show continues to be very popular, with his 'Golden Hour' from 14:00 till 15:00, still many people's favourite. Jim Agnew's Saturday lunchtime oldies show takes some beating, mind you! It has been confirmed that Radio Carousel has closed down all its transmitters and studios in Dundalk, Drogheda and the border area. Only Radio Carousel Navan continues now, from studios in Navan, on 105.0MHz and 1386kHz.

Co. MONAGHAN. There is no doubt about it, this is where all the action is centred. Monaghan Town to be more precise, where most recent newcomers (without question, already in the super-pirate league), Kiss-FM, attack Belfast with a signal so strong on FM, that it can be heard in stereo in even the most inaccessible places. We have it on good authority that both BBC and ILR stations there, are very concerned indeed. The threat of someone placing a massive FM transmitter on a very high location in Co. Monaghan and beaming it into the lucrative Belfast market has been on the cards for many years. Numerous half-hearted attempts have been made in the past, but have run out of steam, or momentum, or probably better still, money, although we knew that one day, someone would do it. Although the station had been on for two weeks, the Belfast attack came last Monday evening when the management and engineers switched on the 5kw FM rig. The difference was immediately noted here in Blackpool, 155 miles away, despite us only receiving the weaker side lobe beam. According to Kiss, the effective radiated power, thanks to a mass of 'Yagi' beams is an astonishing 500 kw. The signal is now virtually rock solid here in Blackpool, using reasonably good receivers and directional aerials and can even be picked up on a simple 'tranny' at times. Programming on the station, under the direction of the experienced Tom (definitely of Radio Caroline fame) Hardy is first class and his deejays Nick Richards, Owen Barry and John Friday see to this. The adverts are a-plenty and of good grounding and station ID's are excellent. Readers in South West Scotland, North West England and possibly extreme North Wales should try for this station

on FM, as only BBC Radio York on the same channel can pose any problems, and York is a good way off. AM 1008 is a different matter and anyone out of the Red Rose Radio, Radio Trent and Radio Solent area (all on 999kHz.) should listen out late evening especially. It really is like the halycon Nova days again.

In the slip-stream of Kiss we find... Kits FM (100.9), Big 'M'(104.8), Zee 103 (103.25), Erneside (97.8), Cavan (AM only, 819), Northern Star (only on AM 1116) and Hometown (98.6), not necessarily in this order, all striving for a similar piece of the action, and all sounding that bit better as a result of competition, we think. Kits FM have even started an hourly news service, we noted today, although we understand Kiss have such plans ready also.

Co. DONEGAL. Excellent FM conditions returned after last weekend's brief lapse and WABC from Innishowen proved no problem on 101.7MHz., with a super signal at times, here. Lets hope the signal was as good on the way here, namely in the listening and advertising areas of Coleraine and Limavady. Station owner, Paul, was announcing some new deejays on Saturday, so this should help out with staffing at the station. The SW service on about 6297kHz. has been on and off rather a lot and we are not sure if the MW service on 1242kHz. is back on yet, although a lot of off channel noise on 1242kHz. has been noted of late. In Donegal town, Glencoe Radio are now to be found on 1143kHz. The move from 1125kHz. was probably due to the nearby strong signal of N.W.C.R. on 1116kHz. As yet we have not received this one, although it is reported to be 500 watts.

Co. LONGFORD. Gerry Conboy's Independent Radio Longford (IRL) continues on 98.7MHz., but with only a local area coverage due to Longford being very low down. Plans to improve this are in hand, we believe. Gerry is a very popular local nightclub deejay and his station can be contacted at New Street, Longford. Rival station, Longford Community Radio, famous for that massive signal on 1071kHz. for years, appear to have only just recovered from the storms which destroyed their aerial. The most recent reception here, in March, indicated only 'peanut power' and we later learned that the aerial was just a bit of wire into a nearby tree! We have not heard the station since then, but did hear it was for sale, and have now received a locally made, low power recording of the station made in Longford, on March 26th, which in itself suggests that it has not been on air since that period until now, when we learn from Radio West that it was not sold and the station owner has decided to give a another go, this time on 1035kHz.

Co. LIMERICK. Hits 954 closed down a couple of weeks back, but the transmitters remained alive, we reported last week. We are now told that a tape of music, ads. and jingles was being played, with a promo spot from Stuart Clark saying that Ireland's first pan-western station, 'Coast Hits 954' is coming soon, etc. All the music is on tapes which were apparently being played by the ex owner. The idea was to broadcast from Galway and have the relays in Limerick, on 954kHz. and 97.6MHz. The FM is to be moved from its current city location in Cecil Street, to a higher location and from reports today, we understand that this has now been carried out. The station has now officially merged with the former Galway-based, Coast 103, and the combined stations are now operating as 'Coast Hot Hits - Pan Western Radio'. All specific towns have been dropped from announcements and the FM out of Galway, used to link into Limerick, has been moved down to 102.2 MHz. due avoid a clash with the FM transmissions of Radio Luimni in the city. The medium wave outlet in Galway, currently on 1566kHz., may possibly be tested on 945kHz., to make the station's two MW outlets adjacent. Current daytime schedule reads.... 06:00 Ger Sweeney, 09:00 Keith York, 12:00 Shane Martin, 15:00 Stuart Clark. Later schedules are under review at this time, but will include Dave Shearer, who is currently commuting between the two towns at this stage of the merger.

New these past few days, Rocky 103 (WRKY), on 98.0MHz.(!) from Listowel, very like the old Big 'L', with a lot of the same deejays (and Mike Richardson, no doubt). The last new station, Radio Avalon, is on 99.3MHz., from Catherine Street. Personnel are all ex Radio Munster. Current output is about 20 watts, we are told, but this is expected to be doubled once a new aerial is installed, and in stereo too. The station currently broadcasts from 8:00 until midnight daily and the format is slightly different from Limerick's other stations, in that more 12" singles

and L.P. tracks are featured. The station commenced tests on Monday 4th April and assumed full programming on Friday 8th. **Radio Vera** has switched its city centre FM rig from 96 to 95.75MHz. The north Tipperary relay is on 102.2MHz. and travels far and wide. They only charge £35 per week for ads., but even at this modest cost, they don't have many. Sound quality is reported as excellent.

Thanks to Paul for the Limerick news, now here is an Ennis FM pirate band-scan..... **County Sound** (Galway), on 94.3, **KFM** (Galway) on 95.0, **Breffni Regional Radio** (Cavan) on 95.6, **North Cork Community Radio** (Mallow) on 95.8, **Kilkenny Community Radio** (Kilkenny) on 97.4, **South Coast Radio** (Cork) on 98.5, **KFM** (Galway) on 99.0, **Radio West** (Galway relay) on 99.7, **Radio West** (Mullingar) on 100.1, **County Sound** (Galway) on 101.0 and **West County Radio** (Abbeyleix, Limerick) on 101.3MHz.

Co. CORK. An advert in the Sunday World newspaper tells us that **WKLR** in Bandon is 'the rising star in Cork, on 100FM'. We cannot confirm this as they are only on FM these days, and only heard in the Munster region. We are told that the current line-up is pretty stable, with John Green returning recently after his holidays. At **ERI**, neither Jim Lockhart nor Hugh Browne have been heard. Hugh apparently only did three days and promptly disappeared! Joe O'Reilly is now holidaying and news is being handled by Katie Johnson. The station still closes between the hours of 3:00 and 7:00 Monday to Saturday, and at midnight on Sundays, which is a shame really, as the station gets out rather well, on 1305kHz. during this period. **South Coast Radio**, in the meantime, have gone 24 hours, since Saturday 9th April, the first time since the early days of the station, when it was called **WBEN**. Chris Black is the new deejay handling the 'missing' hours from 2:30 till 9:00. Apparently he is doing a very good job, we are told, causing some sleepless nights with his good music! Morning jock, the local Scott Shannon, is missing and his spot is being filled by owner, Romano Macari, who also does the popular late evening phone-in show. A Mike Reid has been noted bringing the tally of deejays to nine, compared with ERI's seven. More adverts have also been noted of late.

OFFSHORE STATIONS....RADIO CAROLINE. First off this week, we hear that Peter Philips has, following much speculation, finally left the station after over three years. His recent sudden disappearance from the airwaves after only a two week period led everyone to believe that something was amiss, and indeed we understand that he is due to start work on an ILR station, within the next few days. We wish Peter all the best in his new 'land-based' position.

This week saw the bringing into service of a brand new generator, and so giving a rest to the other pair, which have between them, kept the stations on the air for the past 4½ years. The new generator has twice the capacity of the old ones, so at least now, aerials and insulators willing, there should be no problems with getting full power out of the transmitters. Speaking of which, both 558kHz. and the shortwave outlet are running at around 3½kW at the present time.

The station opened up as normal on Monday (18th) and programmes were also as normal, with Chris Kennedy on breakfast and James Day mid-morning. James announced that Richard Lee would be on the air at 13:00, but at around 12:20, they stated that the station would be closing down at 13:00 for a short time. At 12:59 James made his final announcement by stating that they were going off for the 'installation of generating plant', and would return shortly. In fact, the station was not heard for the rest of the day on either frequency, although a carrier was noted at 23:21 on 558kHz. The shortwave outlet on 6205kHz. also had a carrier on it when we awoke on Tuesday morning, but audio was not heard until shortly after 09:00, when continuous music ensued on both frequencies. Chris Kennedy was heard with an announcement, and then at 10:00, regular programmes commenced. It was announced that the new generator had been installed, and they had named it 'The Whale'. The station was again fully operational, and both frequencies were operating as normal. The foggy conditions during the week, are believed to be the reason for severe 'tripping out' problems on the 558kHz. outlet, which many readers have commented on. The station is still using a temporary insulator, which is probably the reason for this. These 'trips' were also noted for a time late in the evening on 6205kHz. Due to the staff shortage on board, only 20 hours per day are being operated, with the following weekday line-up...

05:00 Chris Kennedy... 09:00 James Day... 13:00 Richard Lee... 17:00 Paul Graham... 21:00 Richard Lee... 23:00 Paul Graham... 01:00 Closedown. Weekend schedule is, as always different, to give the staff a change. James Day and Paul Graham have also shared the news throughout the week, with James normally doing the breakfast and evening bulletins, with Paul Graham at lunchtime. Weekend bulletins were all read by Paul. The news was missing on Sunday morning, with Chris Kennedy mentioning that the 'News studio had come out in sympathy', following the death of a bird on board the vessel. Saturday's Paul Graham show, saw some Dutch people in the studio, who Paul said hello to in turn. Perhaps these were a few of the future staff of the Dutch service which is expected to start, as soon as the 819kHz. aerial is up. This aerial is expected to be put up soon, when some guyng material arrives. Apparently the mast de-tunes itself when swinging, which of course it does a lot of at sea, and so has to be kept rigid.

No new commercials have been aired recently, although promotions for up and coming 'Caroline Rock Shows' are regularly heard. It would be interesting to know if any of the 'winners' of Lotto 6/49 on the recent new advert, entered the lottery after hearing it advertised on Radio Caroline.

Finally, ex Caroline jockess, Jackie Lee can now be heard on Australia's 2XX (New South Wales). She has a breakfast show which is networked to 13 stations. Since her return down under, she has found instant success, which she puts down without question to the experience gained on Radio Caroline.

LAND BASED STATIONS.

BRISTOL. Due to lack of space last week, we held over the lengthy reports from Terry on the happenings since Easter in Bristol. We start off on Saturday 2nd April, when **Radio F.T.P.**'s (104.0) first night out took place. Shows commenced at around 16:50, with continuous music, and then the 'Soul Force' crew at 17:00. The signal was strong, and the audio very good, with very little distortion. The programmes continued until 22:09, when a member of the crew announced that **Radio F.T.P.** would be leaving the air, as all the staff were appearing at Harpers Bizarre on Anchor Road. Probably to make up for the lack of programmes the previous night, the station was on early, Easter Sunday afternoon, this time with the 'Senior Citizens Hour' actually being broadcast on time. Also on Easter Sunday, a carrier had been noted for much of the day on 104.9MHz., which burst into life in the early evening. This was the return of **B.A.D. Radio**, although they were announcing as 105.2MHz. The signal was very strong, and the audio was also very good. The levels were also correct, and the deejays were not getting drowned out by the music as they had in the past. This appeared to be the station's only broadcast over the Holiday period, as only **Radio F.T.P.** were noted on Easter Monday (4th), at the usual start up time shortly before 17:00, with programmes still being in evidence past midnight.

Radio F.T.P. were on the air, although late, on both 6th and 7th April, announcing that they were arranging coaches to take listeners to London for a Rick Clarke concert. Also mentioned was F.T.P.'s second night out on May 2nd at the Moon Club featuring "Smith and Mighty" live. Over Friday evening (8th), F.T.P. were suffering from a severe bass overload, making listening uncomfortable, but by Saturday this had been rectified, and they then completed their usual weekend extended schedule..

The weekend starting Friday 8th April, also saw **B.A.D. Radio** (105.2) back in action with the start of a full weekend's programming. Sign off that particular evening was announced as 03:00. **Bristol Amalgamated Deejays** were now back to their regular schedule, and indeed were noted during both the afternoon and evening of Saturday (9th) and Sunday (10th). Several adverts were aired on **B.A.D. Radio** over the weekend, suggesting that they are now back to stay.

As has been demonstrated in London recently, too much competition between stations can result in rather sinister events. Fortunately in **B.A.D. Radio** and **Radio For The People**'s rivalry, only good has come out of the 'war'. Perhaps in answer to F.T.P.'s seven day operation, **B.A.D.** radio have decided to take the step of increasing its broadcasting hours. After Friday's normal transmissions from **B.A.D.**, Saturday found them on a little earlier at 13:30, programming well into the night. Sunday found them on the air mid morning, and announcements later told everyone that they intended to stay on the air throughout the night, and up

to 08:00 on Monday morning (25th). The signal from the station over these few days has been a little weaker than that of Radio F.T.P., but the audio was much better. As for Radio F.T.P. themselves over the weekend of 22nd to 25th, they programmed as normal, but it looks as though the 'specialist' programmes ("The Children's Hour", "The Gospel Express" and "The Senior Citizen's Show") have been dropped for now. More from Terry in a couple of weeks.

LONDON WEEKEND SURVEY.

15th 19th April 1988.

This weekend touched down on 31 stations, nine being in stereo.

New this week are : Sunrise, and CD93.

Missing /not heard : SoulFM, Solar 93, RootsFM, Playback,

KKazz, Girls FM, T.K.O., Raiders FM, Hits FM and SW Sound.

An unsatisfactory weekend, that left a number of unanswered questions hanging around. It looks as though the 'Boys' are back in town, as a number of stations go missigsome to return almost immediately.

A couple of odd events on Sunday evening, high up on the Kent /London border. A mono signal of soul music was heard, briefly, on 93.95MHz., but went before an ID could be established. KISS FM are normally expected there, but they went out Saturday morning. And, on 105.25MHz., where sometimes can be found Raiders Pop FM, was a very strong pop/rock signal. Checking back ten minutes after the first contact, it too had gone.

93.2MHz. burst into stereo life in the early hours of Saturday morning, which was assumed to be a Starpoint Radio test, but no ID's were given. This isn't unusual for Starpoint, who often go for thirty minutes without a station check. To confuse the issue in the evening, was heard an extended tribute to Genesis /Phil Collins and Peter Gabriel. Could this be Rock FM deserting the quagmire that has become the 94.25 area that they have called home for the last year? With No ID's, it wasn't possible to tell. Extended checks on Sunday again recealed no ID's, but the soul aspect of the music does suggest Starpoint showing it has more than one side to it. Latest news seems to point to this being the long awaited return of the guys from CD 10-24, under the name of CD-93, who who used the facilities of TKO (102.4 stereo) a few months back, until internal dissension, forced them to leave.

LWR (92.1 stereo) have been the centre of another storm of controversy, this week, surrounding the number of tx's which go missing shortly after their staff have been seen in the area. A number of accusations were levelled their way a few months back to this end. It may then only be co-incidence that this week saw LWR go into stereo, with a very good clean signal, just hours after TKO (102.4 stereo) had left the airwaves (?).

Low power southerners, Galaxy Radio (103.05) have suddenly bloomed this week, after several weeks of unreliable transmissions and interference from an unknown source. Monday saw them roar into the big leaguers, with at least a South London covering signal. The fact that the dead carrier which has been on almost constantly since taking over from a worn tape loop at Easter weekend, has now finally gone, may also have a bearing on their coverage.

PRS are on the move again, and they should have known better. Evidently 91.90, where they settled last week, was still not good enough for them, although it appeared to be giving good coverage. Now, they have moved up to that old battleground of 94.2 ish. In the process, Southall's Sangam has had to move up a notch to 95.35MHz., which in turn has pushed up against City Radio (94.5 - stereo). Both City and PRS went out Saturday morning (DoTI people?) but had both returned by 5:30am Sunday morning, just in time to be blasted into oblivion as Easterer's Rock-FM (94.25) brought out their big guns to bear, and blew everyone else in the area to smithereens.

London Irish Community Radio (89.6 - stereo), North London's Country and Pixie Music Powerhouse has actually been heard in true stereo this week, although the overnight tapes are still in mono. Westerners ICE FM (90.5 - stereo) have now opted out of relaying LIC-R overnight, and are either switching off the tx, or putting out their own tapes.

London's newest soul station, are weekenders Sunrise Radio (88.80) who come out of the East End in low power. But, it is not exactly clear when they first came on air. Sunrise was first heard in the early hours of Sunday morning after North London rockers, London Rock Radio (Saturday also 88.80), had gone off. This slot had been checked as clear

on Friday evening, and even though they sound relatively low power, no interference was noted to the much higher powered London Rock.

The only out-of-towner noted over the weekend was a faint signal from Essex funksters Stomp FM (105.45), on Friday night.

Finally, TKO (102.40 - stereo) were heard in very low power, testing in the early hours of Tuesday morning.

[Thanks once again to Sid for his weekly review of the happenings on the busy London airwaves.]

It has been suggested in certain areas (of Ireland), that London Irish Community Radio is a satellite station of Jimmy Smith's Dublin based Treble T.R. Radio. Knowing that TTTR read this report, we await their comments on this rumour! Certainly we have had reports that Treble T R Radio have been inviting listeners to phone in requests, to be read out on London Irish Community Radio.

ESSEX. Following the raid last week on Canvey Radio (93.1MHz), the operators of the station have decided to close down from this area, due to continued harrassment from the local DTI official. It seems that he appears within minutes of the start of every broadcast, and whilst Canvey had plenty of equipment to spare, they feel it a waste of both equipment and time making programmes, when only a short period is actually transmitted. Stomp FM returned this weekend, after two weeks, and were again putting out a very strong signal on 105.4MHz.

THE SOUTH COAST. A.B.C. 105.3 FM was again raided on Sunday (17th April) at 9:15pm, when they were broadcasting with their prerecorded programmes from a location 700 feet above sea level, near Eastbourne. Although the site was visited by the DTI, the staff managed to get away with all the equipment. During the broadcast, many calls came in from all over the South of England. Their power at this point was 70 watts. A.B.C. Radio stickers can still be obtained from : A.B.C., 128 Kingfisher Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN23 7RT.

YORKSHIRE, HUMBERSIDE & DERBYSHIRE. Things were suspiciously quiet in Leeds this week, with transmissions from all stations being sporadic. A visit on Wednesday revealed no stations on the air at all. Music City Radio (90.3), were heard briefly in the week, but disappeared by late in the evening, which is unusual. Peoples FM (91.8), were the only station heard with any lengthy programmes. ABC FM (105.2) have also been only monitored briefly in the week. Interestingly, Ken in South Yorkshire mentioned that M.C.R. were putting out an excellent signal last weekend before they seemed to disappear. Derek reports hearing a station every Sunday evening for the past month, calling itself Thunder Radio, on 104.8MHz. Transmissions start at 20:00, and appear to come from the Mirfield area.

W.L.N.G. (104.95) made two successful broadcasts this week, on 19th and 21st, between 20:30 and 22:30. A few audio problems were noted in both broadcasts, although much of the time it was fine. The station has several different presenters an they include Dave Adams, Tony King, Doug Morris, Steve Wilson, Mark Crosby and Stuart Graham. Each one seems to specialise in a different format of music.

Village Radio (105.2) were heard on 17th April, announcing that they would be operating a full 24 hour schedule over Spring Bank Holiday, 29th and 30th May, and were hoping to be relayed ('to 4 million listeners') by "Veronica" to all the North of England. The presenter, Chris Roberts, programmed until closedown at 23:00. Rebel Radio (105.4) made their regular Monday broadcast on 18th April, with a good signal. Scooter played his usual selection, and was giving out a mailing address for reception reports of... Hilltoresan, Upper Wortley Road, Rotherham S61 2AE. (Please do not put the name of the station on the envelope). Following the end of Rebel Radio's programmes, Village Radio came on the air for an hour broadcast. It seems that they intend to broadcast on most evenings to the South Yorkshire area.

THE MIDLANDS. Radio P.C.R.L. (103.6) and Enterprise FM (91.9) continue plugging away with their 24 hours a day schedules, and playing mainly soul and reggae. P.C.R.L. have been heard with an advertisement for the 'P.C.R.L. Gift Shop', which apparently now has in stock a new range of 'black' greetings cards, and which is open from 10:30 until 18:00. Other adverts have also been noted for Direct Link records in Dudley Road and Summit Records in the Bull Ring. A third birthday party to be held on Saturday 21st May has been advertised, but no more details are known at the moment. Finally with P.C.R.L., they have a promotion

announcing they have an estimated one million plus, listeners. [Radio P.C.R.L. merchandise can be obtained from : Anthony Page, Room No. 53, Handsworth Hall, Friary Road, Birmingham B20 1NN. Goods include carrier bags, rulers, pens, T-shirts, sweat shirts etc. Airchecks of the station along with cassette inserts are also available. Send an s.a.e. to Anthony for a full list.] **Enterprise FM** were heard announcing that on 21st and 22nd April, they would be covering Archbishop Desmond Tutu's visit to Birmingham, to open the Nelson Mandela School. The other regular operator, **Powerhouse Radio** have also had a trouble free week, with an improved and consistant signal, their mixture of pop, rock and dance music can be heard over a wide area. They now mention that their broadcasts are daily, from 16:00 until 02:00. Powerhouse are planning a live gig, and anyone wishing to attend or know more, should contact them at their usual address. **Electro Radio** (95.0) have also been heard during the week, and have announced that they expected to be broadcasting in stereo soon. Finally, **Soul City Radio** (103.9) made their normal Sunday transmissions today.

NOTTINGHAM. **Heatwave Community Radio** (105.1) continue to pump out a very strong signal to all areas around the county, and even further afield. Plenty of commercials can be heard in between the reggae music. Another station playing reggae music has been heard in this area, calling itself **International Radio 105.5**. This one was heard poorly as far away as Derby, on various days in the past week.

MERSEYSIDE. **Radio Merseywaves** (1242kHz.) were heard starting up on Thursday morning this week, and that afternoon, were heard announcing that they would close at the usual time, but would not be back until lunchtime on Friday. Indeed, only a carrier was noted until around 12:30 on Friday, when continuous music ensued until 13:00. At this point regular programmes began once more. The studio appears to have been re-vamped, as deejays were heard commenting about the new set up with lights on the console. Saturday saw programmes as normal, with Mark Palmer having an interview at 10:15, live in the studio, with Dave Collins (of Dave and Ansil Collins fame). The studio sounded very full at this time, and several of his records were played.

Radio Atlantis (1197kHz.) were late on the air on Friday, not appearing until around 15:00. No reason for this is known, but as a result they programmed through until late in the evening. The station was noted on both Saturday and Sunday as normal.

A new station was heard testing this morning on 1296kHz. and announcing 232 metres. Announcing as **Phoenix AM**, continuous test music with the odd announcement were noted until shortly after 14:00, when a full test programme commenced hosted by Brian Sinclair. The station's theme tune 'Apache' by the Shadows was played many times, in between the test music. The signal in this area is good, but suffers slightly from side-splatter from Boyneside Radio's main transmitter on 1305kHz., and which is particularly strong in Blackpool. The signal is also reported to be very good in the Merseyside area. Their schedule was announced as 10:00 until midnight with a varied selection of music programmes, including some reggae.

Radio Julie (104.85) were not heard here until late on Saturday night, when they were noted putting in a massive signal. They were heard as normal today, however.

Radio Veronica 104 (104.7) were on with their normal programmes also today. Due to improved FM conditions this weekend, both Julie and Veronica were noted with higher signal strengths by us.

Other station on the air, but not heard by us, include **Slag Off International** (105.2), heard during the week, and also **Concept Radio** (104.3) who were on last night, and also expected on the air this evening.

GENERAL: The response to our SW aerial and receiver mentions of late has been quite encouraging and, space permitting, we hope to carry on with these features.... We wrote off last week but one, to a firm reported as supplying a quite inexpensive SW aerial. A couple of days later, we received a mass of 'bumf' back. Apparently, the firm are agents for various 'up-market' receivers and we found ourselves in possession of numerous elaborate, glossy, colour brochures for these tasty items. Still, we got what we wanted and that was more details on that SW aerial we sought.... It's called a 'Royal Blue' and is produced by Marksman Products. Standing 6 feet tall, the SW aerial can be used in or out of doors. It covers 2 - 30MHz. and works well with the up-market receivers available today. How well it works

with other receivers will soon be known, as we have ordered one of these items and we intend to put it through its paces as soon as we receive it. A total of £28.00 is involved. Anyone wishing to have details of their own should write to **Photo Acoustics Ltd.**, 58 High Street, Newport Pagnell, MK16 8AQ. Others may wish to wait for our full report.

Last week, we mentioned a relatively reasonably priced SW set called a **Sangean ATS 803A / Matsui MR4099 / Saisho SW 5000 / Realistic DX 440**. Readers of **Wavelength** magazine will have seen in issue 19, a review of the Matsui version. Bought at £129.99, reviewer, Mark Thyme rates it as excellent value and recommended. WR reader, Edward, in Stoke, writes.... 'I purchased a Matsui MR 4099 last Christmas. I paid £129.99 at Curry's, although it now costs only £99.99! Even so, it must rate as a bargain. It is a copy of the Sony ICF 2001D and that costs £350! The Sony does have an airband, however. The medium wave is not as good as my old Grundig Yacht Boy 210, but using an AUK 'loop' it's really very good. Having never used a digital read - out, tuning in is great. It has nine memories, it also remembers what was the last station on each band. It has 12 SW bands, but it also tunes continuously from 150 to 29999kHz. + FM. During the Winter, using the 'loop', American DX was very easy, CJYQ on 930 was heard most nights from 23:00, VCOM on 590 etc. During the day, Irish stations on a clear channel are very strong, also Merseyside pirates. I also listened to Radio Fax on 1611, the Voice of Love on 1615, plus other odd Dutch operators. Using the loop, there is not much you can't hear, and you only have to press the buttons to enter the frequency required, no searching around. I listen to many DX programmes also. I live only half a mile away from Radio Stoke and Signal Radio's MW antenna, but using the narrow band switch, Radio Sweden is very clear on 1179kHz. (Signal is on 1170). Short wave is very good, no hit and miss tuning. I am listening to Caroline now on 6215kHz., at 22:00, it's just starting to get noisy. I only use the telescopic whip antenna, as I like to stay portable. I often listen to WABC on 6300, plus other Sunday operators. I often listen to legal broadcast stations, and get excellent reception of many distant stations, Japan, HCJB, AWR, RSA, Australia etc. All in all, it's a great buy for £100, compared with the Sony 7600D for £170. This radio is reviewed in **Radio Netherlands Receiver Shopping List - Edition 9**. It is marketed under many different names. It also gets stereo FM via headphones. Faults? No built-in mains adaptor, I use a P.S.U. High battery consumption, I use Nicads. 4' telescopic aerial a bit weak - may break. No carrying handle. Its many good features over-ride these however.

VISION DEVELOPMENTS

VIDEO TAPES

| | |
|----------------------------|------------|
| ACE E180 PRO HI-GRADE..... | £2.85 each |
| TDK E120 | £2.65 each |
| SKC E60..... | £2.10 each |
| MAXELL E30..... | £2.55 each |

AUDIO TAPES

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| TDK D60..... | £0.71 each |
| TDK D90..... | £0.86 each |
| TDK AD60..... | £0.91 each |
| TDK AD90..... | £1.08 each |
| TDK SA60..... | £1.27 each |
| TDK SA90..... | £1.59 each |

Endless cassettes

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| TDK EC1/M 1 Min..... | £2.59 each |
| TDK EC6/M 6 Min..... | £3.05 each |

All prices include V.A.T.

U.K. Postage 10p per Tape Min order £5.00

124 Rhyddings Terrace

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PRESS RELEASE

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL

Radio Nova International - Britain's first ever commercial radio station to broadcast via satellite - launches May 1st. Radio Nova International broadcasts from hi-tech studio complex, located in Camberley Surrey, which incorporates state of the art equipment (and thinking) . Radio Nova International plays much more music , less talk (24 hours per day of the hottest hits) available in Stereo to audiences throughout Europe . The potential European cable audience exceeds thirty million . Radio Nova International also hopes to be re-broadcast in most major markets of Europe via terrestrial radio stations . Target age group 15 to 39 .

Radio Nova International brainchild of Chris Cary - a name synonymous with innovations in the broadcast field - whose career to date includes the position of Station Manager with Radio Luxembourg . Chris Cary also founded and ran the hugely successful Radio Nova in Ireland . Past two years have been occupied in establishing major satellite design, manufacture and sales company in Surrey .

Radio Nova International will broadcast via Intelsat VA F11 . Programmes beamed from transponder 63 on sub-carrier frequencies 7.38 and 7.56 mhz. Radio Nova International targeted to 14 European countries (U.K., Ireland, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, West Germany, Italy and Spain) .

Radio Nova International will make extensive use of computerised music programming - an entire software package has been commissioned to format Radio Nova International's music output . Music will be played on Compact Disc . Radio Nova International brings together old friends and new faces in a line-up of international on-air talent .

For further information contact Sybil Fennell/Robb Eden on (0276) 692040 or Fax. us on (0276) 684716.

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL - REAL RADIO AT LAST !!!

ENDS ... April 13th 1988

PRESS RELEASE

19th April 1988

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL - the first commercial radio station to broadcast via satellite from Great Britain - announced today that the following well known names will be joining their DJ line up from launch date May 1st 1988.

TONY BLACKBURN - Heard on RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL 6 to 9pm every Tuesday evening. Tony will also present the prestigious European Top 40 to be aired 12-4pm each and every Saturday. Known to many from his days on BBC Radio One Tony will continue with his work for Sky Channel & BBC Radio London.

PAUL BURNETT - One of the few ex - Radio One DJ's who have ventured into commercial radio. Currently heard on London's Capital Radio...Paul will now be heard throughout the UK & Europe on RADIO NOVA each weekday from 10am to 1pm.

TIMMY MALLETT - Best known for hosting TV AM's " Wide Awake Club" Timmy will be bringing his zany style of broadcasting to RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL every Sunday morning from 10am to 1pm.

TONY PRINCE - Since leaving Radio Luxembourg Tony has become the "king" of disco with his Disco Mix Club. Wednesday night will be NOVA's disco night with Tony from 6 to 9pm.

MARK WESLEY - After leaving Radio Luxembourg Mark has been heard on several Independent Radio stations - sometimes singing on jingles which he writes, performs and produces himself. Mark presents weekend shows on RADIO NOVA - Saturday 4 - 8pm and Sunday 7 'til 10pm.

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL will be officially opened by Timothy Renton MP, Minister Of State For Broadcasting, on Wednesday 4th May at 8pm.

For further information contact Sybil Fennell / Robb Eden at the RADIO NOVA Press Office - 0276 692040.

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL LTD.

Innovation House, Albany Park, Frimley Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 2PL, U.K.
Phone: (0276) 692040

Fax: (0276) 684716

RADIO NOVA INTERNATIONAL. Another era in the history of radio the the U.K. begins on May 1st, when we see the return of Radio Nova, and this time the 'International' title, is no exaggeration. We wonder what particular heading this new service should come under, as although the studios are in England, the 'main transmitter' is in space! The 'Press Release' re-printed left, was received this week, and gives the full story. Several well known names have been lined up for the first schedule as can be seen adjacent. We are unsure at this point whether any 'tests' are being conducted, but our colleague Steve at the info-line is receiving test tones on 11.015GHz (Premier), sub-carrier 7.38MHz. In this case, we find ourselves (embarrassingly) unable to hear anything, as we have no satellite receiving equipment. Since the 'Press Release' was received, the official opening has been brought forward to 16:00, on Wednesday 4th May (it was 20:00.) As a footnote to this exciting development in commercial radio, does anyone remember the 1960's Gerry Anderson TV series 'The Thunderbirds'. The writer certainly had hindsight, as one of the stories featured a radio station in space, broadcasting to the music starved teenagers of the Earth. (Nothing ever changes!) The only difference in this case, being that the deejay was actually 'grooving' in the satellite!

* * * * *

SHORTWAVE STATIONS.

Log for Sunday 24th April 1988.

6205kHz...RADIO CAROLINE, at 07:00gmt.
6225kHz...RADIO GALAXY, at 08:25gmt.
6225kHz...RADIO PAMELA, at 10:44gmt.
6230kHz...RADIO MARABU, at 08:25gmt.
6230kHz...UNID., at 11:45gmt.
6235kHz...UNID., at 09:18gmt.
6240kHz...RADIO RAINBOW INT., at 10:00gmt.
6240kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:05gmt.
6240kHz...W.L.R., at 11:10gmt.
6240kHz...CRUISIN SOLID GOLD, at 13:00gmt.
6256kHz...R.T.R INT., at 09:00gmt.
6266kHz...FREESOUND RADIO INT. (?), at 12.10.
6271kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:56gmt.
6276kHz...UNID., at 08:58gmt.
6280kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 09:50gmt.
6280kHz...RADIO PANDORA, at 12:11gmt.
6287kHz...R. SCORPIO/STARFLEET (?), at 09:05.
6290kHz...RADIO 48, at 09:58gmt.
6295kHz...RADIO KRISTEL INT., at 08:10gmt.
6300kHz...RADIO ORION, at 09:54gmt.
6305kHz...B.R.I., at 09:56gmt.
6316kHz...UNID., at 11:00gmt.
6318kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 10:31gmt.
6320kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:15gmt.
6382kHz...RADIO NORDLIGHT INT. at 10:30gmt.
6815kHz...RADIO PAMELA, at 12:28gmt.
6820kHz...WESTSIDE RADIO INT., at 12:20gmt.
6850kHz...RADIO SKYWAVE INT., at 11:25gmt.
6910kHz...RADIO DUBLIN, at 10:16gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO WAVES INT., at 08:15gmt.
7375kHz...RADIO LUCE, at 08:35gmt.
7385kHz...RADIO NORDLIGHT INT., at 09:10gmt.
7434kHz...RADIO STELLA INT., at 10:14gmt.
7446kHz...GUERNSEY SOUND, at 10:27gmt.

* * * * *

The unidentified station on 6230kHz was a relay of a station based in Waterford, Eire, judging by the adverts, and possibly Waterford Local Radio.

Weekend Radio Int. were heard conducting tests on 6266kHz., although they was also thought to be calling themselves Freesound Radio.

Another mystery was on 6287kHz where one listener thought it was Starfleet Radio, and another Radio Scorpio.

Radio Waves Int. were asking for reports on the test on 6320kHz.

Radio Stella were also conducting tests on 7434kHz., and asking for reports on this slightly higher frequency.